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PHILIPPINE DAILY
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BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

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To keep bird flu virus away, don't kiss your pet parrot

IWAS-IBON MUNA!

HANOI, VIETNAM—FEEL like kissing your pet parrot? If you live in Hong Kong, don't. Got a hankering for duck blood pudding? If you're in Vietnam, it has probably been taken off the menu.

TO KEEP/ A4

Court orders 'libelous' item deleted from PCIJ website

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE STAND-OFF BETWEEN CONTROVERSIAL digital audio engineer Jonathan Tiongco and the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism could go all the way up to the Supreme Court.

Tiongco, who was tapped by Environment

COURT/ A4

Raped girl no sex worker

SCRAP VFA! TROOPS OUT NOW! -GABRIELA
GABRIELA

REM ZAMORA

"SHE'S A PROSTITUTE asking US servicemen for money," Brad Tiffany, an American from New York staying in Manila confronts Gabriela members as they march to the US Embassy to condemn the alleged rape of a 22-year-old Filipina by six American soldiers at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone on Nov. 1.

College grad from Zambo was only visiting Subic

By Allan Macatuno and Patrick Roxas, *PDI Central Luzon Desk* **and Volt Contreras**

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—OFFICIALS OF THE Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority are hard put to provide details on the Filipino woman allegedly raped by US servicemen, but they are clear on one thing: She is not a sex worker.

The woman has refused to say more about the incident that occurred between the evening of Nov. 1 and early morning of Nov. 2, said retired Gen. Jose Calimlim, SBMA senior deputy for operations. "She will no longer talk about the incident. She declined to be interviewed, and seemed so afraid discussing it," Calimlim said.

Early investigation has shown that the 22-year-old college graduate from Zamboanga came here with her stepsister to meet the latter's boyfriend, who was among those who took part in the RP-US counterterrorism exercises at Subic.

"The victim and her stepsister were here for a visit. *Hindi sila pakawala* (They are not loose women)," Calimlim said.

He said that according to the results of the medical test conducted at the James Gordon Memorial Hospital in nearby Olongapo City, the woman had a number of cuts in her genitals but was negative for sperm.

The woman had told investigators that her attacker had used a condom.

RAPED/ A6

No apology for Babao, say Palace, AFP

NEITHER MALACAÑANG NOR THE INTELLIGENCE Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines is prepared to grant ABS-CBN's demand for a public apology.

"I don't know whether that's appropriate. There's nothing to apologize about," Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita told reporters yesterday in a phone patch interview.

The military also said Rear Adm. Tirso Danga, AFP deputy chief of staff for intelligence and a former chief of Isafp, had no intention of retracting his allegation that ABS-CBN broadcaster Julius Babao had bailed out terror suspect Tyrone "Dawud" Santos in April.

"Admiral Danga did not say anything malicious [against Babao]," AFP public information chief Col. Tristan Kison said.

According to Kison, Danga had merely relayed what Isafp officers observed during Santos' bail hearing: that Babao was seen "coaching" Santos during the proceedings;

NO APOLOGY/ A6

Five senators on wage: Keep Congress out

By TJ Burgonio and Jerome Aning

FIVE SENATORS FROM ACROSS the political spectrum and a powerful employers group joined hands yesterday in opposing a legislated wage increase, insisting that the wage issue was better left to regional boards.

"We have to be careful. We might be putting a lot of people out of work," Sen. Sergio Osmeña III warned on the heels of President Macapagal-Arroyo's call for Congress to enact a "reasonable" minimum wage law to help workers burdened by the expanded VAT law.

"This is good for those who have jobs, bad for those who will be laid off and those who are still looking for jobs," Osmeña said in an interview.

The Employers Confederation of the Philippines said regional tripartite wage boards should decide if there should be another round of wage increases and by how much.

"The problem with Congress is that there's too much politics, too much give and take, whereas the regional wage board is a tripartite body. You have representatives from the government, employers, and from the labor sector," Ecop chief Rene Soriano said.

Osmeña cautioned the administration against pushing for a legislated wage increase, saying it might lead to layoffs and shutdowns of businesses.

Osmeña also said that legislating a wage increase, while a populist move, would pose problems owing to the varying costs of living in Metro Manila and the rest of the country.

The current minimum wage stands at P325 in the National Capital Region.

"It won't have the same effect, say, in Manila and Surigao because the costs of living in these places are different," Osmeña said.

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. agreed,

5 SENATORS/ A4

APPEAL TO ENRILE

'Bequeath forests as heritage site'

By Blanche S. Rivera

IT CAN BE A MAJOR ECOLOGICAL BATtleground or an enduring legacy Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile can leave behind, environmentalists hope.

"What the people of Samar are saying is that if the senator really loves the Philippines, he must be gracious enough to bequeath Samar as a heritage area," development expert Minerva G. Gonzales told the Inquirer.

Gonzales was coordinator of a project to preserve the ecological wealth of the Philippines' third largest island of Samar whose people are fighting to keep its forests from logging operations that once depleted its rich depository of endemic flora and fauna.

What the world has hailed as the refuge of threatened plants and animals is shaping to become a crucial battleground for a threatened people.

Samar is one of the few places in the country where the people themselves—many of them highly dependent on the forests for a living—have abandoned their old way of life and moved toward conservation for the sake of the species that also make the island's forests their home.

This sacrifice laid the foundation for the establishment of the 333,000-hectare Samar Island Nature Park (SINP), which comprises a third of the island's 1.34-million-ha area.

Samar's significance as an ecological area has been thrown into focus by a recent government decision to open up an area covered by SINP to a logging firm of Enrile.

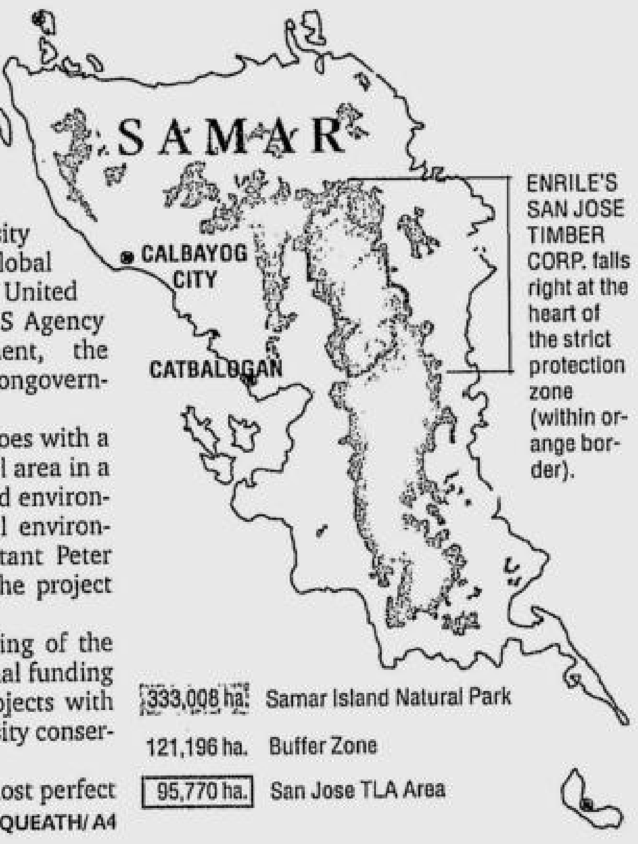
The SINP is a component of the $12.8-million Samar Island Biodiversity Project (SIBP) funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), United Nations Development Fund, US Agency for International Development, the Philippine government and nongovernment organizations.

"This project, dealing as it does with a very important biogeographical area in a country which is highly stressed environmentally, has very high global environmental benefits," GEF consultant Peter Raven said in his review of the project proposal in 1999.

He recommended the funding of the SIBP to the GEF, an international funding agency that supports only projects with global significance to biodiversity conservation.

"This is, in my mind, an almost perfect

BEQUEATH/ A4



ENRILE'S SAN JOSE TIMBER CORP. falls right at the heart of the strict protection zone (within orange border).

333,008 ha.	Samar Island Natural Park
121,196 ha.	Buffer Zone
95,770 ha.	San Jose TLA Area

IOAN BONDOC

THEY WHO HAVE NOTHING LOSE EVERYTHING
They don't even have electricity but a fire hit Barangay Daang Hari 3, Navotas City at dawn on Friday and razed 300 shanties. Red Cross teacher volunteers are looking after the homeless, now housed at the Bangkulasi Elementary School *(Story in Metro, Page A17)*.

9 Pinoys run for a cause in NY

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

IT IS A RUNNER'S CHERISHED dream—to participate in the prestigious ING New York City Marathon.

Makati executives and running enthusiasts Jayjay de Ocampo and Enrique Yupangco are among the Filipinos joining at least 35,000 other athletes in the 42-kilometer race on Sunday.

The New York City Marathon is an annual footrace run through the five boroughs of New York City. Next to the Boston Marathon, it is considered the preeminent long-distance running event in the United States. The race has taken place every year since 1970 and attracts professional competitors and amateurs from all over the world.

9 PINOYS/ A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2005

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern section of Luzon will have mostly cloudy skies with rainshowers. Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

COMPILED BY: JAMIE ALARCON, PDI RESEARCH/11/05/05 SOURCE PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Customs man nabbed in Japan

3 guns, ammos seized by Narita airport police

By Nikko Dizon

A BUREAU OF CUSTOMS (BOC) EXAMINER WAS nabbed in Japan last week after three hand guns and 200 rounds of live ammunition were allegedly found in his possession, BOC Commissioner Alexander Arevalo said yesterday.

Arevalo identified the arrested examiner as Gary Evano, who has been a Customs examiner since 1990. He is now detained at the Narita Police Station at the Chiba Prefecture in Japan.

Airport authorities in Manila are still puzzled how Evano was able to smuggle the weapons and ammunition into the aircraft despite the strict security measures adopted at the airport.

Evano left Manila on Oct. 28 on board Philippine Airlines (PAL) flight PR 432 bound for Tokyo, Japan.

He was arrested upon arrival at the Narita International Airport Terminal on the same day at around 9 p.m. for illegal possession and transport of firearms and ammunition.

Japanese Customs examiners found one .32 caliber semi-automatic pistol, two .38 caliber revolvers, and 200 pieces of live ammunition in Evano's possession.

The handguns were concealed in the inner lining of a pocket in Evano's leather jacket, while 100 pieces of ammunition were hidden in the back pockets of his pants. The other 100 pieces of ammunition were found in Evano's hand-carried luggage.

At a press conference yesterday, Manila International Airport Authority (Miaa) security chief, (ret) Brig. Gen. Angel Atutubo admitted that the incident was a blow to the airport authority's security measures.

"We accept the security lapse or violation, despite the strict security measures we have been implementing. We are now investigating how he was able to sneak the firearms inside the aircraft, and why he did not pass through the X-ray," Atutubo said.

He added that the Miaa has instituted corrective measures to prevent a similar incident.

Atutubo surmised that Evano must have taken advantage of the Naia and Customs personnel's "familiarity" with him.

US Transportation Security Administration (TSA) representatives in Manila have been briefed on Evano's case, he added.

The TSA constantly reviews the security measures at international airports following the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in the US.

The rigid security at international airports has been instituted since international terrorism became a global concern.

Arevalo acknowledged that Miaa has been implementing strict security measures and said what happened was a "very unfortunate incident."

"We have to admit that he (Evano) was able to take advantage of his position, of the opportunities, and possibly take advantage of the loopholes in the system," Arevalo said.

Investigation showed that Evano even reported for work at the Naia Terminal 2, where he is assigned, before he left for Japan.

Arevalo said that Evano was wearing his Customs uniform when he boarded the plane but changed into civilian clothes while on board the aircraft.

"I don't think that an ordinary passenger could have done this. It is very unfortunate that a BOC personnel at the Naia who is supposed to protect the Philippine border is the one who violated this. It is a very unfortunate incident. I'd like to assure you that (Miaa) general manager (Alfonso) Cusi has immediately alerted everyone at the Miaa to take appropriate action," he said.

Evano had a tourist visa to Japan but did not have an approved travel authority, a requirement for traveling government employees, Arevalo said.

The BOC chief added that he has already coordinated with Philippine Ambassador to Japan, Domingo Siazon Jr., for assistance, and received assurances from the Japanese Customs chief that Evano's rights would be respected.

Arevalo added that the BOC will arrange for all the needed legal and diplomatic support for Evano, even as he is likely to face administrative charges here in Manila.

"There are ongoing operations right now and both the Philippine and Japanese sides requested to keep some information (confidential) in the meantime," Arevalo said, in response to questions on why Evano brought with him the firearms.

"Let me assure you that we have identified with the Japanese customs those involved both in the Manila and Japan side," Arevalo added.

Following Evano's arrest, Naia Customs collector Ricardo Belmonte said the BOC will conduct a review of Customs personnel deployed at the Naia complex.

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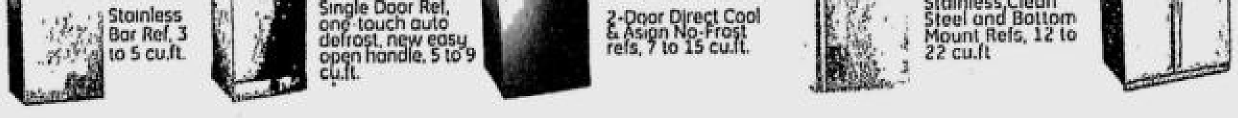

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Authorities probe mystery plane crash off Cagayan

AUTHORITIES ARE VERIFYING REPORTS that a light plane crashed into sea off Cagayan province Thursday night after residents in the area claimed seeing smoke coming from the site of the reported crash.

"We are still confirming the report because as of now we haven't received any reports of a missing aircraft," Air Transportation Office chief Nilo Jatico said in a phone interview.

But both the ATO and the Philippine Air Force (PAF) said that all general aviation and military aircraft were accounted for.

Jatico said that residents of Ballesteros, Sta. Cruz, Cagayan claimed to have seen a low flying aircraft early Thursday night.

The police, quoting residents, said the plane, believed to be a two-seater Cessna, was cruising over the village when it suddenly hit treetops and then plunged into the sea.

The aircraft supposedly disappeared and the next thing residents saw was smoke coming from the side of the ocean.

"None of the residents actually saw the plane come down," Jatico said.

Navy frogmen on Friday scoured the sea off Ballesteros, Cagayan for the missing plane but failed to recover any wreckage.

The search and rescue operations, however, were hampered by bad weather, Jatico added.

The ATO in Cagayan said owners of private planes claimed their aircraft were all accounted for.

Air Force spokesman Lt. Col. Restituto Padilla also said that no military plane was missing. "And all our aircraft are accounted for," he said.

Nevertheless, Jatico and Padilla said that search and rescue teams will continue to scour the area to verify the report. *Nikko Dizon and Estanislao Caldez, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

NO RP PATENT

RP may manufacture medicine vs bird flu

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE PHILIPPINES MAY BE ABLE to produce Tamiflu, the anti-viral drug believed to be effective against avian flu, without fear of violating any international property rights.

According to Roberto Pagdanganan, chair of the Philippine International Trading Corp., Tamiflu (oseltamivir), which is manufactured by the Swiss-based Roche pharmaceutical company, has no local patent.

This means that any domestic drug firm can produce it without violating legal restrictions to its manufacture, Pagdanganan told a media forum yesterday.

As the avian influenza virus continues to spread from Asia to Europe, there has been much debate worldwide over local production of the drug as Roche has been barely able to keep up with demand.

Tamiflu is widely believed to be the the most efficient medicine to deal with a possible avian flu outbreak in the event that the virus mutates into a strain capable of transferring from one human to another.

Pagdanganan said local companies like Unilab could produce Tamiflu in three months upon the go-signal of the Department of Health. He said the raw materials could be easily imported from India.

"The system is set. In case we need to produce it, we will be able to do it," said Pagdanganan.

PITC is the lead implementing agency of the government's parallel importation of essential drugs.

Pagdanganan said that so far there was no need to go into local production of Tamiflu as the there is no avian flu outbreak yet.

The DOH's order of 10,000 capsules, or P1.7 million worth of the drug, from Roche is set to arrive in January.

In the meantime, the Bureau of Animal Industry said that the best strategy against bird flu was still to prevent the virus from entering the Philippines.

This strategy forms Stage 1 of the four-pronged measures set up by an inter-agency task force involving the agriculture, interior, local governments and health departments.

With the country still free of the virus that has killed at least 62 in Asia, Catbagan said the government was strictly monitoring the entry of poultry products, BAI director Davino Catbagan said at the same forum.

Since the outbreak of the disease in several Asian countries, he said the government has seized and destroyed three tons of poultry meat.

An average of 150 kgs to 200 kgs of meat, usually from Xiamen and Shanghai in China, are confiscated from airline passengers every two weeks, he said.

Catbagan advised the public to keep their livestock away from areas where migrating birds converge during the months of October to February.

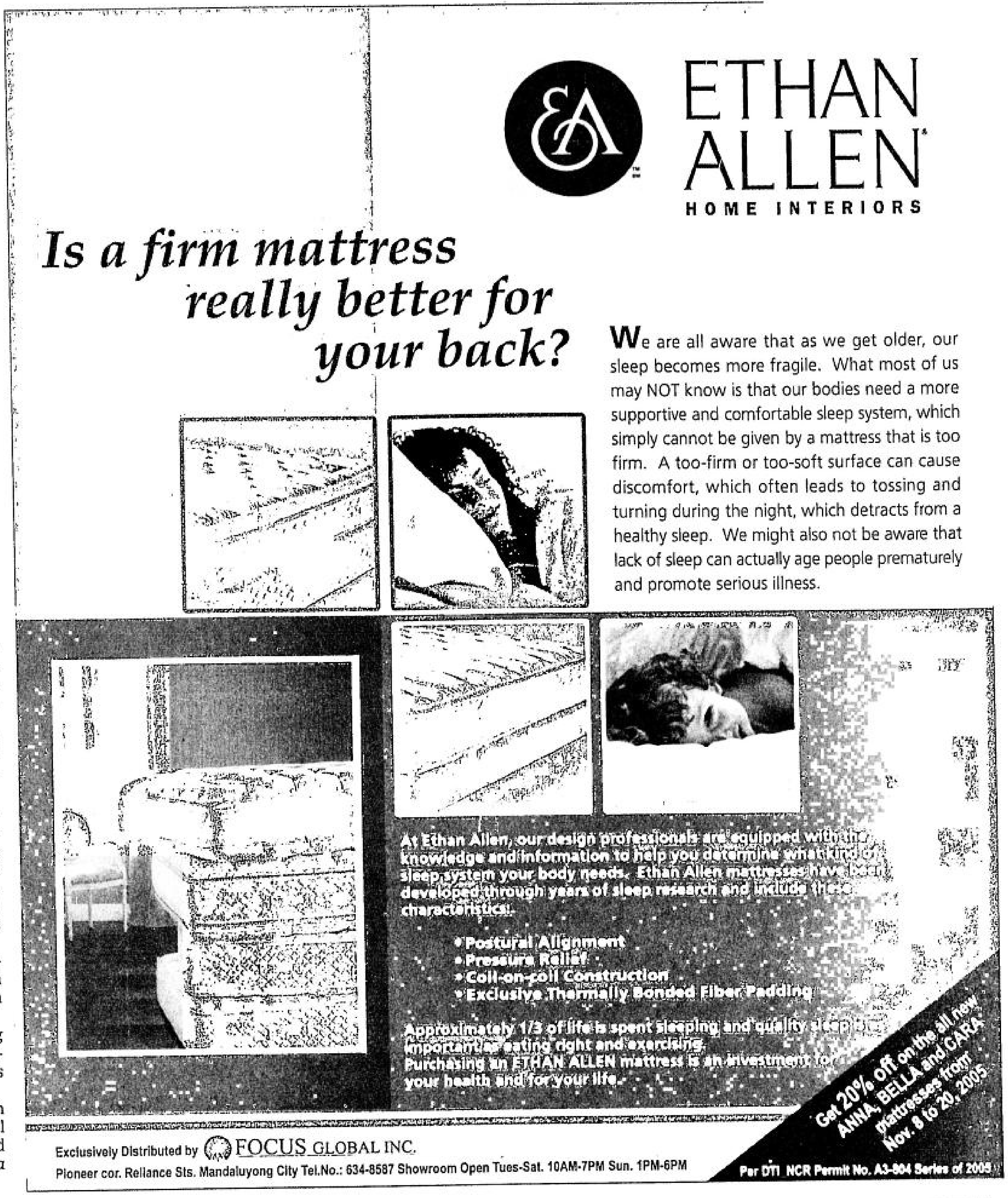
The Philippine National Red Cross has placed its local affiliates on "ready mode" in anticipation of an avian flu outbreak.

PNRC chair Sen. Richard Gordon has ordered all Red Cross chapters to immediately reactivate and reorient the "chapter core disseminators" who had undergone public health and disaster response training during the SARS scare three years ago.

"We have to be ready for the imminent threat of pandemic in Southeast Asia related to the avian flu," Gordon said in a statement.

The PNRC will start distributing information and education materials about the disease to schools and health centers nationwide.

Avian flu preventive education has already been integrated in all Red Cross training courses, said PNRC secretary Vic Liozo. *With a report from Jocelyn R. Uy*



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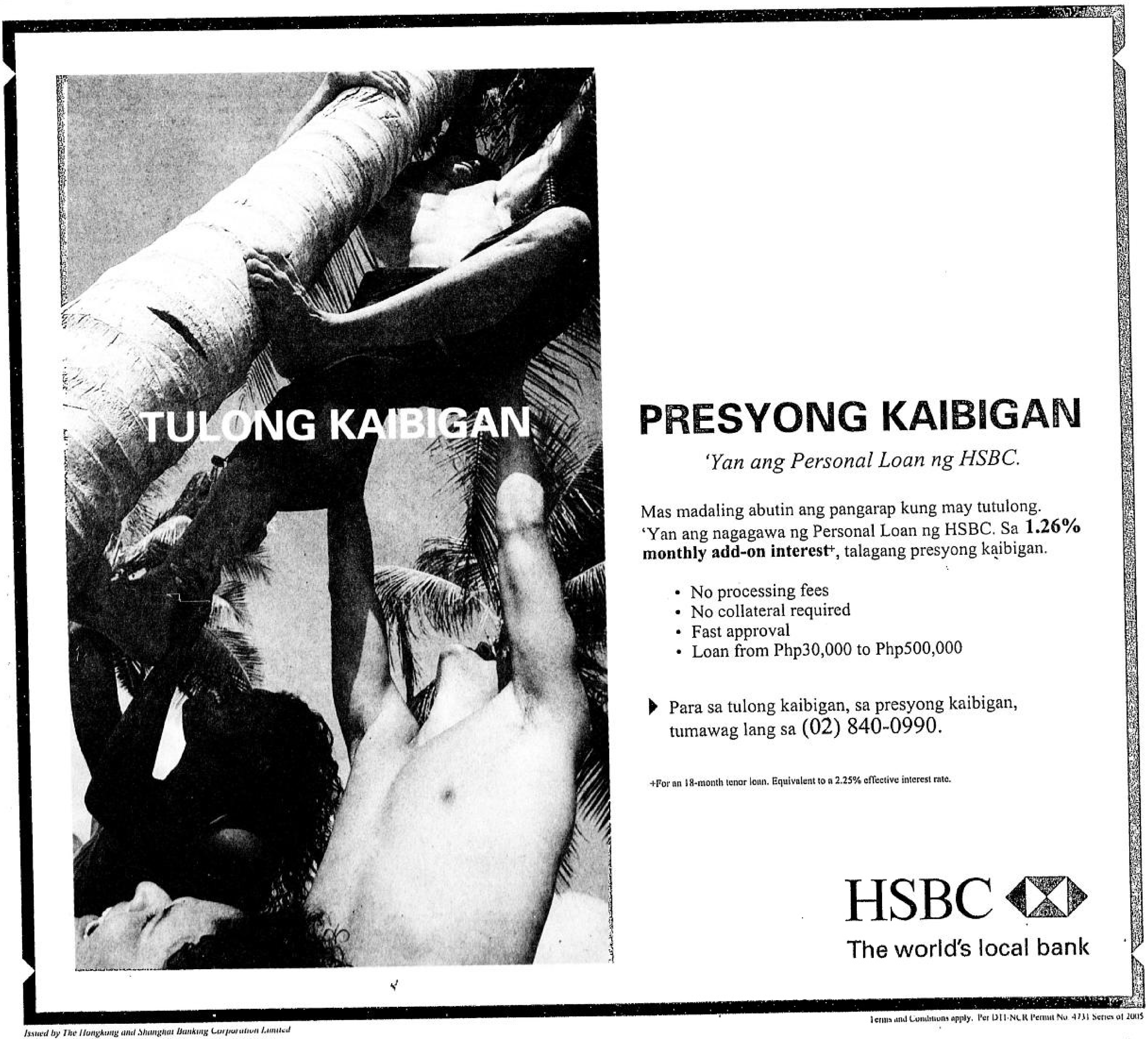

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To keep bird flu ...

From page A1

These precautions are some of the more unusual pronouncements made by officials in Asian nations as bird flu fears spread faster than the virus itself.

In the Philippines, officials announced that all athletes from bird flu-affected countries coming to Manila for the 23rd Southeast Asian Games this month will be banned from visiting aviaries and poultry farms—just in case this was on their itinerary. Health officials have expressed concern that the virus could be carried into the archipelago by means of the travelers' clothing or shoes.

In addition, visitors would be banned this year from going to Sagada to trap migratory birds at night using nets, after attracting the fowls with lanterns or small fires.

"Bird owners should not kiss their pets," Hong Kong's Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department said in a statement outlining measures people should take when handling their feathered friends.

On Tuesday, Vietnam banned the sale of duck blood pudding—a specialty appetizer that aficionados say is too much of a tradition to give up, although it's been blamed for passing bird flu to people.

"I still eat it. Not every day, but three or four times a week," said restaurant owner Pham Van Vinh. He sold up to 300 bowls of the cold, congealed treat every day before recent warnings scared away some customers.

Made from the raw blood of freshly slaughtered ducks or geese and mixed with boiled organs, the dish was linked to at least one bird flu death last year.

But Vietnam, which has been hardest hit by the H5N1 virus with more than 40 deaths, has also offered citizens and tourists a bit of comfort: Anyone who falls sick because of the virus will be treated in hospitals—free of charge.

China's largest city, Shanghai, also announced strict new policies to try to remain bird-flu free.

Sterilization

Shanghai officials said they would disinfect the shoe soles of all travelers arriving by land, sea or air, according to the official Xinhua News Agency. The report was unclear about how the sterilization would be done or how authorities planned to enforce such a measure on the millions of people entering the city by road each day.

Wild birds have been blamed for spreading bird flu across Asia and into Europe. The disease has ravaged Asian poultry stocks and killed at least 62 people in Southeast Asia. Health experts fear the virus will mutate into a form which could easily spread from person to person, possibly igniting a global outbreak that could kill millions. So far, most human cases have been traced to having had contact with birds.

Many Asian countries have declared a ban on poultry imports from affected countries. They have also increased their surveillance, including screening passengers at airports for fever or other flu-like symptoms.

Shoot it down

Some, like New Zealand, have announced plans to seal off all borders if human-to-human transmission is reported.

Last Friday, Hong Kong lawmaker Tommy Cheung proposed a solution to the legislature for stopping bird flu altogether: "Perhaps what we should do is give each person a gun, and when we see a migrant bird, we can just shoot it down, so Hong Kong would be a much safer place." *AP*

Bequeath Samar as heritage site

From page A1

GEF project and, in that sense, is highly innovative ... I find this one of the best in terms of its plans for sustainability," he said in his scientific and technical review.

Samar is listed by the World Wildlife Fund as one of the world's 200 eco-regions for its rich biodiversity. It is also one of 18 plant diversity centers, hosting 12 of the world's threatened tree species.

Found in its contiguous lowland forests are 2,400 species of flowering plants, 406 of which are endemic or found only in the region; 39 species of mammals, most of which are forest dependent; 25 reptile species, and 12 amphibian species.

Philippine eagle

Samar has also been named as one of the nine endemic bird areas in the Philippines.

The Philippine eagle was first discovered in the forests of Paranas, Samar in 1896. Experts have said that the island, which has some 360,000 ha of unfragmented lowland forests, could have the highest population of the endangered Philippine eagle in the country.

The Philippine eagle, known to be a very territorial species, needs an area of 3,000 ha to fly.

Samar is also home to the threatened Philippine Hawk Eagle and the Philippine Cockatoo, along with 194 other bird species, of which 50 are found only in the Philippines.

The Acerodon jubatus, the largest bat in the world, rests in Samar's forests as well.

"The big danger is the loss of biodiversity when the forests are touched. These species could be completely lost if the forests go," Gonzales, project coordinator of the preparatory phase of SIBP, said in an interview.

Strictly protected area

Gonzales headed the team from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources that spent three years—1998 to 2001—working on the proposal that was eventually approved by the international funding agencies.

ENRILE: The heart of the matter

She criticized the DENR's recent decision allowing a logging firm of Enrile to cut trees in a 95,770-ha area covered by the SINP, a protected area.

San Jose Timber Corp.'s TLA area not only fell within the SINP. It was right at the heart of the strict protection zone, an area that bans all kinds of activities, even eco-tourism to ensure protection for natural growth trees, environmentalists contend.

Church and environment groups have joined forces in opposing the resumption of logging operations, saying this would threaten the water supply on the whole island and make the people vulnerable to massive flooding.

Environment Secretary Michael T. Defensor signed the order upholding SJTC's TLA on Aug. 16. He also extended the TLA's effectivity by another 16 years to compensate for the revenues lost by Enrile's firm since the logging moratorium in 1989.

"They saw it from a very narrow perspective," said Gonzales, who is now working for another institution.

Pullout threat

"The TLA has been superseded by other events, the proclamation of the area as a forest reserve in 1996, the agreement between the UNDP and the Philippine government and the proclamation of the SINP," she said.

The UNDP-GEF is inclined to pull out funding for the second phase of the project if logging operations resume as authorized by the DENR, sources have said.

"Samar is one of the biggest GEF projects in the country. It would be a black spot for the Philippines if funding is pulled out," Gonzales said.

The second phase of the SIBP, which would run from December 2007 to 2009, entails the establishment of the park center and administrative office, the strengthening of local government capability to manage the nature park and the inclusion of conservation in future development projects.

Gonzales said the 200,000 households in the 35 municipalities covering the SINP had stopped *kaingin* and other invasive livelihood activities to ensure the forests' regrowth.

The previously forest-dependent communities have opened up to eco-tourism and harvesting of non-timber forest products to support themselves.

All that is a heritage of ecological wealth Enrile can bequeath to his people, Gonzales said.

Five senators on wage: Keep Congress out

From page A1

saying: "It costs more to raise a family in Manila than say in Tuguegarao, Cagayan or Isabela, Basilan."

Pimentel also said that business firms differed in terms of viability and could simply throw out workers.

"While nominally helping those with jobs, it makes it harder for those without jobs to get one," Sen. Manuel "Mar" Roxas III said.

Roxas also said that a legislated wage increase was generally inadvisable because it was not tied to productivity and would be inflationary.

Anti-business

"If done to obviate the impact of VAT, it is anti-business and anti-investment. This is because as a practical matter, the net effect is that private business is the one who will fund the VAT collection," he added.

"So in addition to higher operating expense because of the VAT on fuel and electricity, there will be additional expenses from costlier labor. Margins get squeezed and there's no reason to stay in business."

Senators said fixing the wage increase was better left to wage boards as they were attuned to the economic conditions in every region.

Let people get jobs first

"A living wage is dependent on regional circumstances, which the executive is far better suited to address," Sen. Richard Gordon said. "Don't pass it on to Congress. The bureaucracy is there. Use it."

Instead of asking Congress to pass a wage bill, the government should create an environment conducive to investments and trade, and create employment opportunities, Gordon said.

"Let's do a China, Korea, Taiwan and Thailand. Let's get our people employed first," he said.

Sen. Ralph Recto said: "We've done our part. Congress created the regional wage boards to do just that. They have to do their job."

Employers' view

Ecop's Soriano said regional wage boards had experts to determine if there really were "supervening events" to warrant another increase.

He said that 99.6 percent of employers in the country were in small-scale industries and they would be the most affected by pay increases.

Soriano also said that many employers could not afford new salary increases, pointing out that salary raises called for by the regional boards in June and July had not yet been fully implemented.

Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas said wage-fixing was balancing of interests and was not just a political but also an economic issue.

"We know that members of the Congress are elected by the people, so they probably have more wisdom than the wage boards put together. They should be able to take a look at this issue in terms of the larger national interest," she said.

No deal

Anakpawis Rep. Crispin Beltran challenged Ms Arroyo to prove that she was not making "hollow promises" when she urged Congress to enact a wage increase.

Beltran added: "She should instruct all administration (lawmakers) to affix their signatures to the wage hike bill and approve the measure first thing on Nov. 7 when session in Congress resumes."

Palace denial

Malacañang denied reports that it had struck a deal with left-leaning lawmakers under which it would endorse a legislated wage hike in exchange for their support for the VAT law.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said: "How can we deal with them when we all know that every time they make a move or they take a position, they always want what is not good for the government no matter who is charge?" ***With reports from Michael Lim Ubac, Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.***

GMA seeks middle ground on wage issue

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARroyo yesterday called on Congress, management groups and labor unions to sit down with the government in determining the "middle ground on the legislated wage hike."

"A quadripartite dialog is in order and must consider the full range of social, economic and political implications," Ms Arroyo said in a statement, a day after calling on the legislature to enact a reasonable minimum wage law. "We need to maintain our economic gains while engaging full cohesion and political stability."

Ms Arroyo said that while strengthening the economy through bigger tax revenues was the best road out of poverty, "we must consider direct mitigating measures to ease the pain."

"Let us have a strong nation tempered by compassion so that the less fortunate can weather these tough times in the knowledge that the spirit of sacrifice is shared by all sectors."

Court orders 'libelous' item deleted from PCIJ website

From page A1

Secretary Michael Defensor to examine the authenticity of the "Hello Garci" tapes, has been granted temporary relief in his complaint against the PCIJ by a lower court.

Quezon City Judge Ralph Lee on Thursday directed the PCIJ to "remove, delete or block" an article alleged to be damaging to the reputation of Jonathan Tiongco on the PCIJ website, www.pcij.org.

PCIJ editor Sheila Coronel yesterday said she would take the issue to the Supreme Court.

"This is a press freedom issue. The TRO is contrary to our constitutional right. We stand by our story. We have documents to prove it," she said.

Judge Lee made it clear that the temporary restraining order, to take effect until Nov. 20, should not be "construed as an indication of this Court's sentiment or inclination" on the petition for preliminary injunction filed by Tiongco's wife, Rona.

The 'expert'

Rona Tiongco had gone to the lower court with a complaint against a PCIJ article that she said portrayed her husband as "a bigamist, a serial murderer, a gun-toting hothead and a (car thief)."

The article, titled "Mike Defensor's expert" and written by Vinia Datinguinoo, was posted on the PCIJ website on Aug. 12, the same day that Defensor presented Tiongco in a press conference in which the sound engineer questioned the authenticity of the "Hello Garci" tapes, saying that two tracks of the recordings had been tampered with.

Rona Tiongco said she found "revolting" a quote from a police dossier cited in the PCIJ article describing her husband as a man with a "checkered past [with] a string of criminal cases against him, ranging from grave threats to murder."

She also felt slighted by anti-crime advocate Teresita Ang-See's statement that Tiongco's "credibility is suspect."

"Without delving [into] to the honesty and truthfulness of such allegations and with ultimate objective of protecting the interests of both parties, this court is constrained to issue the TRO being sought," Judge Lee said in his order. He set the hearings on the case for Nov. 9 and 13.

Proper forum

Coronel said Tiongco had only asked his wife to seek a TRO from the Quezon City court after the Supreme Court rejected a similar petition.

In an Oct. 11 order, the high court noted that since Tiongco had filed a separate libel suit against Coronel and others with the Quezon City prosecutor's office, the QC fiscal would be the proper forum to litigate the case.

"The TRO is against the decision of the Supreme Court," Coronel said.

Last Aug. 22, Tiongco filed libel charges against Coronel, Datinguinoo and Ang-See over the same PCIJ Aug. 12 article which discussed the allegedly questionable credibility of Tiongco owing to his alleged involvement in a string of criminal cases.

Tiongco said that the criminal cases cited in the article were false. He said the article was meant to "destroy his good name".

He said the "libelous publication" had nothing to do with his credibility as a sound engineer.

Tiongco was engaged by Defensor to show that the "Hello Garci" tapes, which suggested that President Macapagal-Arroyo may have rigged the 2004 vote and was then the main basis of the impeachment complaint being prepared against her, was inauthentic.

Tiongco claimed he had examined an MP3 file downloaded from the PCIJ website and the tape from lawyer Allan Paguia, and found them to have been spliced.

Defensor reinforced Tiongco's conclusion by presenting the findings of United States expert Barry Dickey that "several anomalies exist, which question the integrity of [the recordings]."

But Dickey said in his report that the anomalies "[required] further analysis of comparative exemplars created by the original recording."

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9 Pinoys run for a cause in New York City

From page A1

De Ocampo and Yupangco and the nine Filipino runners based here and in the United States form the Gilas team—one of the biggest contingents of Filipinos in the history of the New York marathon.

Gilas, which stands for Gearing Up Internet Literacy and Access for Students, is a private sector-led movement launched in January this year to provide Internet connection to public schools nationwide. The organization hopes to improve their education and expose them to opportunities provided by the technology.

To raise P5M

Jovi Zalamea of Gilas said they hoped to raise P5 million from pledges of support to the runners and the cause. The runners called on the public to make their participation more meaningful by making a donation for every mile they run.

If all nine Gilas runners finish the race, they will have covered a combined total of 236 miles or 379 km.

Funds are already coming in from individuals and corporations.

De Ocampo and Yupangco are not only excited about participating in the race for the first time, they are enthusiastic about running to raise funds and awareness for Gilas.

"It's a big bonus to be able to put some social significance to what I am doing," said 38-year-old De Ocampo, an executive at Macondray and Co. Inc., "and I really feel that the public school system should be improved."

"I believe in the cause (Gilas) very much," added Yupangco, 35, an executive of Ayala Land Inc., "it will benefit us tremendously if the technology is made available to as many as possible."

Teammates

The others in the team are: Sabino Padilla IV, a partner in a Manila-based law firm; Nona Torres, head of investor relations of Ayala Corp.; Eduardo Carballo, investment banker based in New York; Juan Miguel Escaler, head of sales at ING Bank Manila; Oona Mapua, former teacher taking up a master's degree at Columbia University; Leonides de Ocampo, information technology architect for IBM in Georgia and Kristin Pecson, accounting manager for a New-York based publishing company.

Filipino runners overseas did not hesitate to join team Gilas even if they happen to live far away.

"I run for Gilas because I believe in its cause," said Leonides de Ocampo, "Now my voice as a concerned Filipino reaches others who would otherwise not be aware of the difficulties of our countrymen."

ARMM needs most help

Gilas had provided Internet connection to 686 public high schools, mostly in the Visayas and Mindanao. With additional funds, it could provide Internet connection in 50 public high schools in Mindanao, particularly in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) which needs help the most. This will benefit at least 2,500 students and teachers.

Schools with computer laboratories will be provided Internet access and their teachers will be trained in basic Internet literacy. Those with no existing facility will be given a fully equipped laboratory with 10 computers and peripherals, free one-year access, software and training.

The school administrators will also be taught how to maintain and improve the laboratories so they could sustain the program.

"This is an event we are really excited about. We want people to know that there is this effort and that they can directly share in the advocacy by supporting the runners," Zalamea said.

CASE TRANSFERRED TO PASAY CITY

Dos Palmas suspect to be presented Monday

By Luige A. del Puerto

THE KITCHEN HELPER ALLEGED TO have been involved in the kidnappings at the Dos Palmas resort in Palawan in 2001 has yet to be presented in court a week after he was arrested in Baguio City.

According to Director Vidal Querol, chief of the National Capital Region Police Office, the police decided not to push through with the plan to fly Amil Salih—identified by a police informer as the "Abu Tagalog" involved in the kidnappings—to Isabela, Basilan where the case was supposed to be heard.

He said Isabela town officials had informed the Manila police that the cases against the Abu Sayyaf suspects in the Dos Palmas kidnapping had been transferred to Pasay City.

Querol said Salih would be presented to the justice department offices on Monday.

Salih, who is being detained at Camp Bagong Diwa headquarters of the NCRPO, was supposed to have been flown to Basilan last Thursday.

Querol said his office has been careful not to violate the rights of Salih, who was arrested last Saturday in Baguio City based on an arrest warrant issued by the Basilan court.

"It was just that my men did not know that the case had been transferred (from Basilan to Pasay City)," he said.

Querol explained that the information about the transfer of the case was received late.

"My men told me they were making last-minute preparations. They called Isabela to coordinate their arrival there because they had wanted somebody to fetch them," he said.

He said the three-day holiday this week may have caused the delay. Government offices were closed on Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

Querol said his men also had to check with the Department of Justice offices in Manila to find out which Pasig City court was trying the kidnap case.

A police informer had pointed to Salih as the "Abu Tagalog" involved in the Dos Palmas kidnappings.

According to Querol, he also signed his name as "Amil Salih Flamiano aka Abu Tagalog" when he was booked.

An intelligence officer in Camp Crame has claimed, however, that Salih had no criminal record and was most likely not the "Abu Tagalog" tagged in the kidnappings.

He said the arrest warrant only listed the alias "Abu Tagalog," which he said was a "generic alias."

The police are looking for two more Abu Sayyaf members with this alias, but none of them is Salih, said the officer who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Until his arrest, Salih had not been linked to any terrorist or kidnap group, the officer said.

He said the police had in fact arrested an "Abu Tagalog" in October 2002. Mark Gumbahali, tagged as an Abu Sayyaf member and the "Abu Tagalog" linked to the Dos Palmas kidnap case, is being held with other alleged Abu Sayyaf members in a Metro Manila jail.

Bedejim Abdullah, a Baguio-based Islamic scholar, said Salih, a native of Basilan, was a volunteer kitchen helper at the local Almaarif Educational Center, the largest Islamic institute in Northern Luzon.

He has been living in Baguio since 1997, he added.

Salih was arrested along with a man identified only as Mario, a plumber at the same Islamic school.

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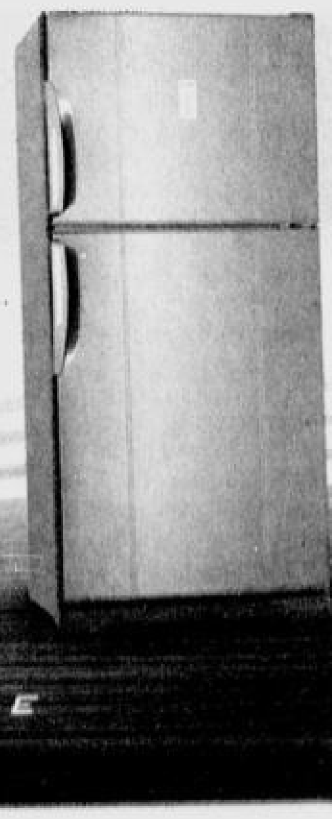

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JUNK VFA

JUNK the Visiting Forces Agreement and present the alleged US servicemen-rapists are the battlecry of Gabriela and other militant groups at their protest rally on Friday.

JOAN BONDOC

Raped girl not a sex worker

From page A1

In her statement to investigators, she said she was "sexually assaulted by an unidentified male Caucasian." She did not say the suspects all raped her.

The woman is "still in a state of shock," according to her sister. Her mother arrived here from Zamboanga on Friday but refused to be interviewed.

Now in Manila

A complaint was filed against the Americans at the Olongapo City prosecutor's office on Thursday.

They are now in Manila and awaiting developments of the case, Calimlim said.

But US press attaché Matthew Lussenhop said only five American servicemen—not six, as the INQUIRER had reported—were tagged in the alleged rape and thus barred by the US Embassy from leaving the country.

He said the embassy was dealing with the matter "very seriously" considering that US troops headed for foreign lands were, as standard procedure, advised to observe "cultural sensitivity, proper behavior and respect for the law of the communities" they were visiting, especially when off-duty.

Lussenhop said that as of yesterday, the embassy had yet to receive a formal notification from the Philippine government regarding the case.

Malacañang does not see the alleged rape as causing a ripple in RP-US relations as long as the provisions of the Visiting Forces Agreement are observed.

"From my end, I can see that for as long as everyone understands that this is covered by the VFA, I don't see any problem," Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said in a teleconference with reporters.

He quoted President Macapagal-Arroyo as saying that "justice will be followed in accordance with our procedures and our laws."

DFA at frontline

But Malacañang does not see the need for hands-on action, Ermita said.

"This is a matter that is very well covered by the provisions of the VFA, and we are letting the Department of Foreign Affairs handle this," he said. "I'm sure this is being handled very well at the level of the [DFA] and the US Embassy."

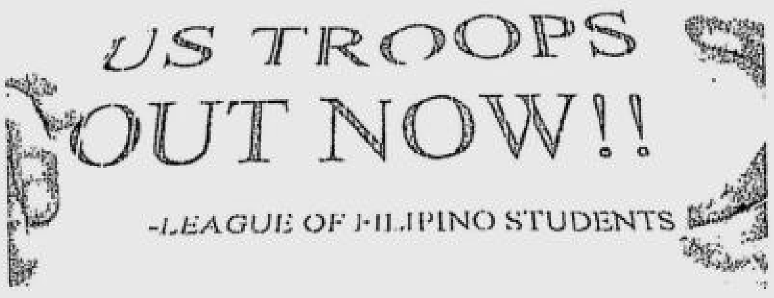
Ermita also declined to state Malacañang's position on whether the US servicemen should be turned over to Philippine authorities during their trial.

"The DFA will be the one dishing out statements on this matter," he said.

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said the Philippines might seek custody of the US servicemen within 20 days.

But he said future developments depended on what would happen in talks between officials of the two countries. Echoing Ermita, he said the case was primarily a matter to be addressed by the DFA.

"Under the VFA, we basically waive custody to the US except in cases which are of such importance to our country, in which case we must justify the importance and request [custody] within a period of 20 days. At this point, it is still too early to say this because it is now the subject of a dialogue between the DFA and US," Gonzalez told reporters.



THE LEAGUE OF FILIPINO STUDENTS march to the US Embassy on Friday denouncing the alleged gang rape of a Filipino woman in Subic by six US servicemen.

REM ZAMORA

But he said that while custody belonged to the United States, "we have the right to ask the US to make [the servicemen] available for trial."

Gonzalez said that even if the rape victim declined to pursue charges, the crime could still be prosecuted because rape had ceased to be a private offense.

But he acknowledged that should the woman back out, the case would not be strong: "If there is no victim that will testify, what will you do?"

'Take jurisdiction'

Lawmakers were quick to make their views on the matter heard.

Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo challenged the Arroyo administration to "immediately prosecute the US soldiers to the fullest extent of Philippine laws."

"Ms Arroyo should order Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo to swiftly take jurisdiction of the incident, and the justice department to conduct a summary investigation and file the appropriate charges before a regional trial court to prevent the accused's flight from justice," Ocampo said in a press statement.

Cebu Rep. Antonio Cuenco, chair of the House foreign affairs committee, said the VFA should be reviewed and given "more teeth" to deter visiting US servicemen from committing crimes in the country.

Isabela Rep. Edwin Uy, chair of the House committee on bases conversion and development, warned the US government against using its influence to eventually obtain the soldiers' acquittal.

"This is a matter of applying the law and giving justice to the victim," Uy said. "There is no disagreement between the country and the US. We appeal to the different sectors not to use the issue to instigate conflict between the Philippine and US governments."

Warning

Sen. Rodolfo Biazon warned that the Senate would consider abrogating the VFA if the United States would cut corners to protect its servicemen.

"If there is an actual reneging by the Americans of the provisions of the VFA, the Senate could in the end consider abrogating the VFA in the same manner that it abrogated the Military Bases Agreement in 1991," he said in an interview.

"Since there is an interest in improving security cooperation, it will be for the interest of both nations to have mutual respect for the implementation of the VFA," he added.

Biazon co-chairs the legislative oversight committee on the VFA with Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago and two congressmen.

The senator, however, noted that so far the United States was abiding by the provisions of the VFA—which governs the conduct of US military personnel in the country, among others—in connection with the alleged rape.

"Since this is still in the investigative phase, it's right for the US Embassy to take custody of and be responsible for the American servicemen," he said, adding:

"This is a sign that the Americans will be made available for the conduct of the investigation and trial proceedings, if the case progresses to the point of trial."

If anything, said Biazon, who chairs the Senate committee on national defense and security, the alleged rape would test the mettle of both the presidential oversight committee and the legislative oversight committee in the implementation of VFA provisions.

He said it was the job of the two committees to ensure that the Philippines would not be "unnecessarily" taken advantage of.

The presidential oversight committee is cochaired by Foreign Secretary Romulo and Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz.

'A letdown'

Said Sen. Richard Gordon, a member of the oversight committee on the VFA, in an interview: "These things will happen when you have military officers. It happened in Okinawa; it happened here years ago. But when it happens to an ally, it's a letdown to the principles upon which the VFA was made.

"It disturbs the focus of mutual cooperation for security," he added, stressing that the VFA was aimed at promoting the common security interests of both countries as well as strengthening security in the Asia-Pacific region.

But Akbayan Rep. Etta Rosales said: "The US [servicemen] allegedly involved in the rape case should be tried in the Philippines. We warn against any move on the part of the US Embassy to cover up the wrongdoing as it would reflect on the US' inability to rein in its forces not only in the Philippines but also elsewhere.

"US troops should get out of Philippine soil right away and never come back, not because we are racists but because we do not support what they are here for."

Only a year

Should the case go the trial, it better be over within a year from the time of arraignment, Foreign Undersecretary Zosimo Jesus Paredes told the INQUIRER by phone.

Citing jurisdiction provisions of the VFA, Paredes, a lawyer, said local courts had only a year in which they could compel the appearance of US personnel undergoing judicial proceedings in the Philippines.

Once that period elapses, the court "loses the right to require" the accused to appear at the hearings. Their US custodians may still be requested, but are no longer obliged under the VFA to present them, said Paredes, who is also the executive director of the Presidential Commission on the VFA.

By then, the accused can leave the country, he said, adding that the case could still proceed, but as a trial in absentia.

"That's why we are making this our priority," he said. "The government, and especially my office, are solidly behind the victim."

But like other criminal cases under the Philippine legal system, this case may be settled out of court, Paredes conceded.

"It's allowable under our legal process, and we cannot force victims [not to enter into a settlement]," he said.

"But I don't think it will come to that. *Masyadong matindi ang mga pangyayari* (The incident is terrible) and maybe all Filipinos are outraged by this case," he said.

'No whitewash'

Paredes said that in the next few days, he and his staff would meet with the woman and her family to assure them that "the government is behind them and is doing everything for them," and that there would be "no whitewash."

He said his counterpart in the US Embassy, whom he did not name, had personally assured him that the servicemen would remain in the country.

"I have not yet seen them, but I can if I want to," he said.

Lana Linaban, deputy secretary general of the militant women's group Gabriela, reiterated calls for an end to the RP-US military exercises, the pullout of US troops from the Philippines, and the scrapping of the VFA.

"The Philippine government is also liable for this [alleged rape] and for all the other crimes committed by the US soldiers against the Filipino people," Linaban said.

Swift justice

Some 20 members of Gabriela held a lightning rally near the US Embassy in Manila to condemn the alleged rape.

"Swift justice should be delivered to the victim. The perpetrators should be prosecuted and punished, and neither the Philippine government nor the US should give them special treatment," Libanan said.

Members of Gabriela Youth and the League of Filipino Students also joined the protest action. *With reports from Gil Cabacungan Jr., Leila B. Salaverria, Philip C. Tubeza, TJ Burgonio, Norman Bordadora and Tina G. Santos*

Terror suspect's lawyer hits DOJ on rebellion raps

By Luige A. del Puerto

THE LAWYER OF TYRONE "Dawud" Santos yesterday said it was "absurd" for the Department of Justice to charge his client with rebellion at this late date.

"Why only now?" said lawyer Nicomedes Martelino. "They have arrested him before and linked him to the discovery of explosives [in Quezon City]. Why didn't they file charges of illegal possession of explosives against him then? This is absurd."

"Why would the justice secretary (Raul Gonzalez) tolerate things like this?" he said.

Martelino pointed out that Santos was arrested on March 22 on the strength of an arrest warrant for illegal possession of firearms and explosives in Tarlac and Pangasinan.

On March 25, military operatives raided an apartment in Quezon City and seized 600 kilos of explosives supposedly found there. They said Santos' arrest had led them to the apartment.

The DOJ filed rebellion charges on Thursday against Santos; his elder brother Hilarion "Ahmad" Santos, alleged leader of the Rajah Solaiman Movement; Abu Sayyaf leader Khadaffy Janjalani, and 18 others.

Ahmad Santos was arrested in Zamboanga City last week.

Amused, then enraged

Martelino said he was initially amused to learn of the rebellion charge, but was eventually enraged.

Rebellion is a nonbailable offense, which means that if Santos is rearrested, he will not be allowed to post bail.

Martelino also took issue with how the military had been portraying his client as a "terrorist", even before the charges against him can be proven.

On Thursday, the military claimed that Santos was planning bomb attacks in Metro Manila. Quoting reports, Rear Adm. Tirso Danga, Armed Forces deputy chief of staff for intelligence (J-2), said Santos had been "contacting his comrades to conduct bombings in Metro Manila."

'What if they shoot him?'

Martelino issued the reminder that under Philippine law, an accused was presumed innocent until proven guilty.

"The mindset [the military] wants the public to have] is that he is a terrorist. What if they just shoot him just like that?" the lawyer said.

He reiterated that Santos had not jumped bail and had been attending his hearings.

In fact, Martelino said, Santos was present at the hearing in Tarlac yesterday and had sent him a text message saying the hearing had been aborted because the prosecutor was not around.

Martelino also pointed out that Santos' bail was not P200,000 but only around P40,000.

The court was convinced to lower the bail after being told that the accused was unemployed.

Santos was released on April 26, some four weeks after the military arrested him in Cubao, Quezon City.

No apology for Babao, say Palace, AFP

From page A1

that the P200,000 bail money was suddenly produced after a five-minute break after Santos' lawyer earlier pleaded for a reduction in the bail; and that Santos was taken away from detention in Camp Aguinaldo in an ABS-CBN van.

"There's no need for an apology because he (Babao) was not maligned and there's nothing to retract because all he (Danga) told is the truth," Kison said.

Danga refused to take calls yesterday. The Isafp chief, Brig. Gen. Marlu Quevedo, did not answer calls to his cell phone.

'Truthful enough'

ABS-CBN issued a statement on Thursday demanding a public apology from the Palace and the Isafp for supposedly maligning Babao's reputation.

It was President Macapagal-Arroyo herself who made public the Isafp report on Babao in a disclosure last week to INQUIRER columnist Ramon Tulfo.

Ermita said that based on their interviews with the media, Isafp officers had been "truthful enough to say [the information on Babao was contained in] intelligence reports."

"They did not actually charge him [with] having violated anything," Ermita said. "They were just talking about the factual things that have been gathered."

Ermita also expressed certainty that Babao would be able to clear himself. ABS-CBN had said it was conducting an inquiry into the matter.

Asked whether the network was out of line in demanding an apology, Ermita replied: "I do not want to say 'out of line.' Anybody is entitled to their opinion."

Citing the facts

In a news conference on Wednesday, Danga admitted that all the military had against Babao was "circumstantial evidence."

"We are not saying that Julius Babao categorically posted the bail. But we will cite to you the facts regarding the circumstances by which his name was implicated," Danga had said at the time.

But the previous week, Danga was categorical about Babao's bailout of Dawud Santos, alleged second in command of the radical Rajah Solaiman Movement (RSM) whom the military suspects to have planned to bomb Metro Manila during the Holy Week.

On Oct. 27, the day the military presented Hilarion "Ahmad" Santos, RSM leader and Dawud's elder brother, to the President and the media, Danga said Dawud had been missing since he was released on April 26.

"The brother (Dawud) is a member of the RSM but he was out on bail and it was even a personality from the media who gave the bail to help this person out," Danga had said.

But he did not identify the "media personality" and dropped the matter.

The following week, quoting the Isafp report, Ms Arroyo told Tulfo that Babao had paid for Santos' bail.

Just observations

Asked if Danga was liable for giving the President the impression that Babao had provided the bail money, Kison said Danga's report merely stated the Isafp's observations and did not make the conclusion.

"That's the stand of the AFP: All the things that came up are products of circumstantial evidence. We didn't make the conclusion; we just gave the circumstances, the facts," Kison said.

Asked if it was Ms Arroyo who had jumped to the wrong conclusion, he said: "Even the President didn't say anything malicious. She said it was disturbing that a member of the media was coaching a terrorist suspect and was allowing a terrorist suspect to ride in an ABS-CBN van."

Commenting on the controversy, Danilo Ramos, secretary general of the militant farmers group Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, said the Isafp had been committing one blunder after another.

"Is this really the Intelligence Service talking? They're wasting precious taxpayers' money," he said. *Dona Z. Pazzibugan and Christine O. Avendaño*

POLICE TIPS TO MOTORISTS

How to tell a fake checkpoint

By Luige A. del Puerto

A POLICE team stops vehicles at a checkpoint along a major thoroughfare in Manila. If a motorist suspects that persons manning a checkpoint are not real policemen, he should report this to the nearest police station, or immediately call 117 or 2920.

PDI FILEPHOTO

WITH CAR HIJACKINGS ON THE RISE, how do you tell that the checkpoint ahead of you is a legitimate one, manned by real police officers and not robbers?

The first and clearest sign of legitimacy, according to the police manual on operational procedures, is the use of official and marked police vehicles and adequate lighting.

"If unmarked vehicles are used, you should be suspicious and should try to extricate yourself from the situation," says Chief Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil, Philippine National Police spokesperson.

The manual says a legitimate checkpoint has these following characteristics:

- The area is properly lighted, and legible and clear signs are exhibited.
- Officers manning the checkpoint wear proper uniform at all times, with their ID cards and nameplates easily visible.
- The checkpoint is led by an officer with the rank of police inspector at least.

Blue is the color of the police's uniform. Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) officers wear a black uniform. Soldiers wear camouflage fatigues. In all cases, their names and units are prominent on their breast plates and shoulders.

Bataoil urges motorists to be always alert and a keen observer. There is something wrong, he says, when the uniform do not match, say one guy wears a blue police uniform as his upper garment, and a military camouflage as his lower garment.

He also advises motorists to ask for the highest-ranking officer when flagged down.

"Searches made at check or chokepoints shall be limited to visual search and neither the vehicle nor the occupants shall be subjected to physical search," the manual says. "An extensive search may be allowed only if the officers conducting the search have probable cause to believe that they would find evidence pertaining to the commission of a crime in the vehicle to be searched, and there is no sufficient time secure a valid warrant."

Searches, seizures or arrests, the manual adds, must be done civilly and "with due respect to the innocent passersby, commuters or bystanders." Extortion and harassment of motorists or passers-by are strictly prohibited.

Police have "probable cause" to believe that a car has been used in a crime if that vehicle matches the description of the getaway car used in a bank robbery or some other crime, according to Bataoil.

If one suspects that car robbers – and not cops – are up ahead, Bataoil urges them to immediately seek a police station, or immediately call 117 or 2920.

It is best to take note of the police stations on the route from home to work, he added.

If for some reason, you cannot get a way and drive right up to a group of robbers, the advice of Senior Supt. Felipe Rojas Jr., the Manila police's chief intelligence officer, is not to resist but hand over the car and report the incident to police as soon as possible.

'Assumptionistas' launch drive to build homes for poor

THREE ORGANIZATIONS WILL LAUNCH "Pusong Assumptionista" on Nov. 8 at 5 p.m. at the Prieto Hall of the Assumption College in San Lorenzo Village.

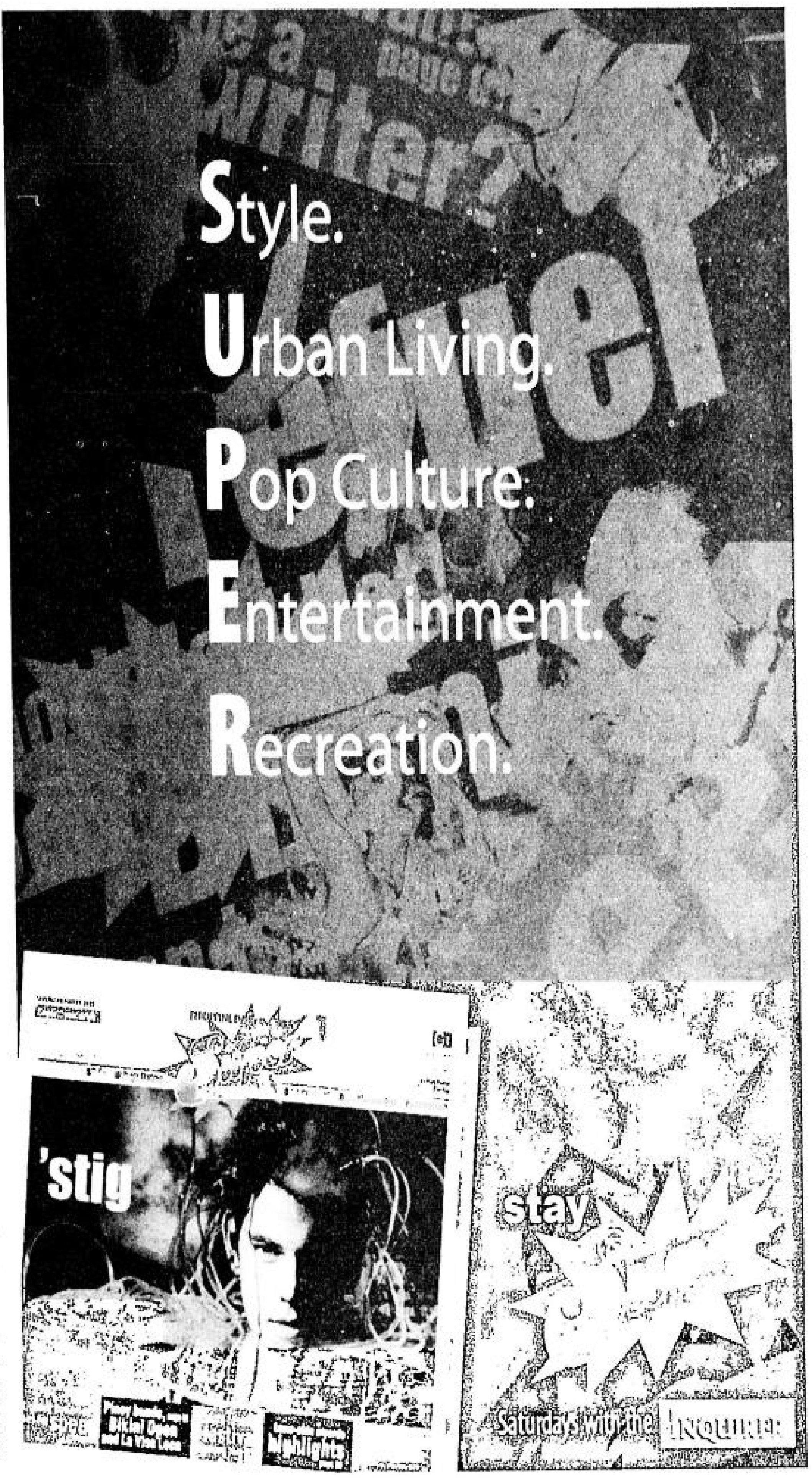
The three organizations – Maryville Urban Development Foundation, Maryville Homeowners' Association and Gawad Kalinga 777 – are undertaking the project in response to the need for housing for the poor in the country.

The members of the MUDF and MHA are Assumption alumnae working with the parents of Assumption College's urban poor school, San Juan Nepomuceno School, in Malibay, Pasay City. They have entered into a partnership with Gawad Kalinga to build 128 houses in Imus, Cavite for families of SJNS students now living as informal settlers in Malibay.

They will build 78 more houses in addition to the 50 units that have already been funded by HSBC.

The MUDF and MHA members are calling on the Assumption Community – alumnae, students, parents and friends – to contribute their time, effort and financial and material resources needed to complete the project.

With the launching, they hope to make it possible for 78 families to spend Christmas this year in their own homes. Builders using the Gawad Kalinga technology and experience will build each house within one month at a cost of about P50,000.



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2ND SEM BLUES

Gov't sees no solution in sight

By Leila B. Salaverria

WITH THE OPENING OF THE second semester fast approaching, the government is scrambling to find a way to help the education plan holders of pre-need companies in financial straits.

But, as Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez learned following a meeting with Securities and Exchange Commission chair Fe Barin and other officials yesterday, finding the cash that some 100,000 plan holders need to pay for their children's tuition is easier said than done.

"Definitely the funds available are public funds," Gonzalez told reporters. "That is the legal issue we have to confront. We have not reached any definite decision. We have to consider that on one side you want to help plan holders. On the other side you have to see whether what you are doing is legal."

Gonzalez said he also had to study the implications of his involvement in helping the plan holders out of their predicament in light of a criminal complaint filed with the Department of Justice against the pre-need firm College Assurance Plan, or CAP. There is also a civil case involving CAP's petition for rehabilitation that is still ongoing.

But Gonzalez said he could not ignore a directive from President Macapagal-Arroyo to find a short-term remedy for the plan holders.

The justice secretary said he and the SEC were trying to help not just CAP's plan holders but also those of other pre-need firms in financial trouble.

"We our racking our heads to find a short-term solution because that is what the president wants," he said.

Gonzalez said one suggestion brought up was to have schools agree to enroll students and collect tuition fees later or for plan holders to advance the tuition money and be reimbursed later by the government, assuming it finds a legal way to use public funds this way.

Another suggestion was to enroll affected students in state colleges and universities (SCU), but Gonzalez acknowledged this may not work out if these schools did not carry the students' course of choice.

Military threatens to use arms to disarm Moro rebels

CAMP SIONGCO, MAGUINDANAO – The military yesterday threatened to use armed force to dismantle newly established camps of Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in Tupi, South Cotabato.

Col. Franklin del Prado, spokesperson of the 6th Infantry Division, said the MILF violated the ceasefire agreement it forged with the government when it established camps and brandished firearms in the village of Polonoling.

The Army's 6th ID consequently filed complaints before the joint Government-MILF coordinating committee on the cessation of hostilities (GRP-MILF CCCH).

The GRP-MILF CCCH and the Malaysian-led International Monitoring Team have been closely monitoring violations of the ceasefire accord in an effort to strengthen the foundations of the peace process.

According to Del Prado, combined members of 104th and 107th Base Command of the MILF have been recruiting and training new fighters to augment its force. *Edwin O. Fernandez and Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

BREAKTIME RFM ZAMORA

Construction workers along UN Avenue in Manila watch passersby during a work break. The recent implementation of VAT is feared to further erode the economic standing of many poor Filipinos. The President said VAT would give the country higher credit rating. Most Filipinos, however, would be lucky to get more credit from the neighborhood *sari-sari* store.

Congress plans to allocate P100M for Islamic schools

By Philip C. Tubeza

CONGRESS PLANS TO APpropriate P100 million for the Islamic madrasah school system next year in an effort to improve the quality of education in the country's Muslim areas, the chair of the House appropriations committee said yesterday.

Camarines Sur Rep. Rolando Andaya Jr. said the proposal was "a first" in the country's history and was part of the Department of Education's proposed P119 billion budget for 2006.

Andaya brushed aside fears that the madrasahs, or madaris, would end up as hotbeds of Islamic radicalism.

"That's far-fetched," he said. "They'll be teaching Rizal, Bonifacio and Sultan Kudarat, and not Bin Laden. That stereotype will not happen here. The standardized curriculum will see to it."

The money will be used to "develop, produce and distribute textbooks and other instructional materials for madaris (plural for madrasah) whose curriculum is being standardized by DepEd," Andaya said.

The allocation would also fund the training of madrasah teachers in the subjects of English, Arabic and Islam, he added.

Madaris fuse Islamic teachings with the regular education curriculum. As of July, there were around 8,000 madaris throughout the country, mostly found in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). However, only 1,561 – less than 20 percent – had been registered with or accredited by DepEd.

Andaya explained that the "declining school performance" of elementary and high school students in ARMM prodded DepEd to ask for funding for programs that will improve education in ARMM and other Muslim areas.

In the last national achievement test in English, Science and Math for Grade VI and senior high school students, ARMM students scored the lowest, according to a DepEd report to Andaya's committee. As a result, functional literacy in the region, at 60 percent, is one of the lowest in the country, it added.

Because ARMM is an autonomous region, its education budget is included in the proposed appropriations for the ARMM government, and not in DepEd's, Andaya said.

To meet the needs of the more than 600,000 students in the region, the ARMM's own Department of Education had a proposed budget of P3.6 billion for 2006, he added.

Andaya said the P100 million DepEd madrasah fund can also be used to fund madaris outside the ARMM.

Urban groups disown ad vs GMA housing program

SEVERAL URBAN POOR ORGAnizations have disowned a full-page advertisement which claimed that the housing program of the Arroyo administration was a failure.

In a press statement, the organizations denied any knowledge and participation in the placement of the ad. They also pledged their full support for the government's home-for-the-homeless campaign.

The paid ad which appeared in the Oct. 25, 2005 issue of the INQUIRER was placed by the anti-poverty group Urban Poor Alliance. The ad stated: "Madame President: Your housing program for the poor has failed."

Fr. Nonong Fajardo, secretary general of the 70,000-strong Homeless People's Federation of the Philippines, said that his group and other nongovernmental organizations listed in the ad as endorsers, were never consulted nor informed of the open letter to the President.

Fajardo's HPFP was listed as one of the endorsers of the paid advertisement.

Aside from declaring the government's housing program a failure, the UPA also asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to immediately order a moratorium in the resettlement of families affected by the NorthRail project and called for the termination of the Social Housing Finance Corp. president and his replacement by a certain Miriam Quizon.

UN to conduct seminar at First Asia Institute

A UNITED NATIONS AGENCY will conduct a training workshop for teachers in Southern Tagalog on Nov. 11, 2005 at the First Asia Institute of Technology and Humanities, Tanauan City, Batangas. Dr. Lourdes Quisumbing, president of Unesco Apnieve Philippines, will talk on Values for Learning and Working Together. For details, call Gay Marie Francisco at tel. (043) 778-0656 loc. 350 or e-mail: gmfrancisco@firstasia.edu.ph.

Greenpeace apologizes to RP, Mother Nature for damage to coral reef

GREENPEACE APOL-ogized yesterday to the Philippines and Mother Nature for the damage caused by its flagship Rainbow Warrior II on a world heritage site coral reef that the environmental campaigners were supposed to protect.

The group was fined nearly $7,000 earlier this week but blamed what it described as inaccurate navigational charts provided by the Philippine government after the 55-meter schooner ran aground at Tubbataha Reef Marine Park on Monday.

The ship caused damage on an area of some 160 square meters of coral, authorities said.

Greenpeace offered a belated and unconditional apology after the ship sailed into the port of Manila to continue an island-hopping tour across the Asia-Pacific to promote climate change awareness.

"Yes, we admit we are human too. We apologize that this thing happened," Greenpeace Southeast Asia campaign manager Von Hernandez told a news conference.

He said it was Greenpeace's understanding "that these things happen quite frequently" at Tubbataha, a spectacular 32,000-hectare coral formation in the Sulu Sea. *AFP*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Saturday, November 5, 2005
31st Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Rom 16:3-9,16,22-27
Gospel: Luke 16:9-15

Jesus said to his disciples, "And so I tel you: use filthy money to make friends fo yourselves, so that when it fails, these peopl may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever can be trusted in little things ca also be trusted in great ones; whoever is dishonest in slight matters will also be dishones in greater ones. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling filthy money, who coul entrust you with true wealth? And if you hav not been trustworthy with things that are no really yours, who will give you the wealt which is your own?

"No servant can serve two masters. Eithe he does not like the one and is fond of the other, or he regards one highly and the oth with contempt. You cannot give yourself bo to God and to Money."

The Pharisees, who loved money, heard a this and sneered at Jesus. He said to the "You do your best to be considered righteo by people. But God knows the heart, an what rises high among humans is loathed b God."

Commentary

The exhortation on yesterday's parable co tinues. It is blunt and brutal—use filthy mon to make friends for yourselves, so that when fails, these people may welcome you into t eternal homes. Are we using our resources little things (money) to care for the needs others or are we doing all so that our own ne are covered? Are we trustworthy with what h been given to us? Are we trustworthy with th true wealth of the kingdom: justice, forgi ness, the peace of Christ, the Word and Bread God shared with us? Are we trying to serve t masters—which one do we really hold in co tempt? Are we intent on making sure oth think highly of us? O God, you know the hea of each and all of us. Look hard at us and let see ourselves in your eyes for what we truly a and turn us back to you. Help us to radically an accounting of our lives, and forgive the de others owe us now. Amen.

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Poland, Romania may harbor CIA prisons

WASHINGTON—FLIGHT RECORDS AND OTHER evidence points to Poland and Romania as countries that allowed their territory to be used by the CIA to hold top suspected al-Qaida captives, a Human Rights Watch director said Thursday.

Tom Malinowski, the Washington director of the human rights group, said the evidence, though circumstantial, strongly pointed to Poland and Romania as being among the unidentified eastern European countries referred to in a Washington Post report Wednesday on secret CIA-run prisons.

Malinowski said sources in Afghanistan told the New York-based rights organization that top al-Qaida suspects, including Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, were moved out of Afghanistan in September 2003.

The same month, a Boeing 737, leased by the CIA to transport prisoners, departed from Kabul and made stops at remote airfields in Poland and Romania before continuing on to Morocco and then to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, he said.

"It's a large aircraft so one could imagine a large group of detainees flying on this plane, as against some other smaller executive jets that they used," he told AFP.

"The fact that it stops in eastern Europe, then Morocco and then Guantanamo suggests different classes of prisoners being deposited in different places," he said.

In Brussels, a spokesperson for HRW's Belgian branch, Jean-Paul Marthoz, said "inquiries up until now seem to indicate that Poland and Romania are the countries that received prisoners held by the CIA." He refused to rule out the CIA could be holding "ghost prisoners" elsewhere in eastern Europe.

The European Commission meanwhile said it would look into press reports that the CIA was running secret prisons in eastern Europe.

"When we have finished that examination, we will further define our stances," said Friso Roscam Abbing, an EC spokesperson for justice and security affairs.

"Obviously, the existence of secret prisons does not seem to me to be compatible with the EU's fundamental rights charter," he said.

The Post said the CIA has run an international network of secret prisons for top al-Qaida suspects since the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the United States.

Citing US government officials and foreign diplomats, the newspaper said the so-called "black sites" have been located in at least eight countries, including Thailand and several eastern European democracies.

The Post said the CIA has been hiding and interrogating some of its most important al-Qaida captives at a Soviet-era compound in eastern Europe. *AFP*

Bush ratings drop to new lows

WASHINGTON—FOR THE first time in his presidency, a majority of Americans questioned President George W. Bush's personal integrity as his approval ratings on key issues fell to new lows in an ABC News/Washington Post poll published on Thursday.

Fewer than half—40 percent—said Bush was honest and trustworthy. Separately, 67 percent rated his handling of ethics in government negatively and fewer than half called him a strong leader, another first, according to the poll.

Sixty percent of Americans disapproved of his overall job performance, which ABC said was "a level unseen since recession chased his father (George Bush) from office." That compared with a 39 percent approval rating, the poll said.

Even in his own party, just under half of Republicans—49 percent—now strongly approve of Bush's job performance, a 22-point drop from the start of the year when Republicans gave Bush a 71-percent job approval rating, ABC said. *Reuters*

150 cars torched in new Paris riots

FRANCE—RIOTERS SET FIRE TO AT LEAST 150 vehicles in an eighth night of unrest in the impoverished suburbs of northeastern Paris as exasperated local officials criticized politicking by national leaders.

Rioting erupted again late on Thursday despite hopes that festivities ending the fasting month of Ramadan would calm rioters, many of them Muslims of North African origin protesting against race bias they say keeps them in a second-class status.

Police said there were fewer confrontations than previous nights when police and fire crews were fired upon by some rioters. They said 150 vehicles had been destroyed overnight.

Security officials said a heavy police presence—about 1,000 riot police patrolled poor areas—had acted as a deterrent, but rioters nevertheless set fire to two textile warehouses, a bus depot and a primary school.

"Why a school, why a car? What can you say about such blind violence," one local mayor, Michel Beaumale, said.

For the first time disturbances spread outside the Paris region, youths torching cars in Dijon, Rouen and the Bouches-du-Rhone area dominated by Marseille, though the extent of the unrest was not immediately clear.

On Thursday evening, local officials complained loudly about dithering and politicking among national officials after Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin briefed them about an "action plan for the suburbs" he aimed to present later this month.

"Many of us told him this isn't the time for an umpteenth plan," said Jean-Christophe Lagarde, mayor of Drancy in the riot-hit region. "All we need is one death and I think it will get out of control." Manuel Valls, mayor of Evry south of the capital, said:

"We're afraid that what's happening in Seine Saint Denis will spread. We have to give these people a message of hope."

Rioting among young men of North African and black African origin—mostly locally-born citizens who feel cheated by France's official promises of liberty, equality and fraternity—began last week after two teenagers of African origin died while fleeing the police.

Villepin and Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy, whose bitter political rivalry has overshadowed the government's reaction, teamed up in the French Senate on Thursday to announce that restoring order was their "absolute priority." Villepin indirectly blamed the riots on gangs he said terrorized residents and sought to keep police out of their districts, and vowed law and order would have the final word. *Reuters*

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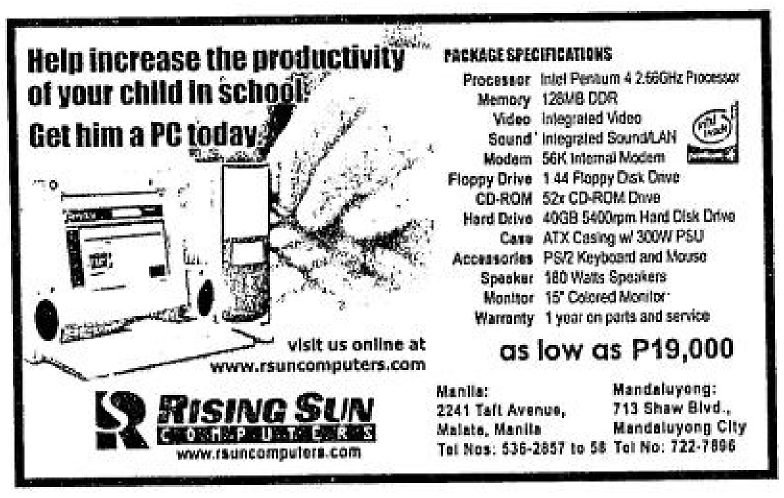
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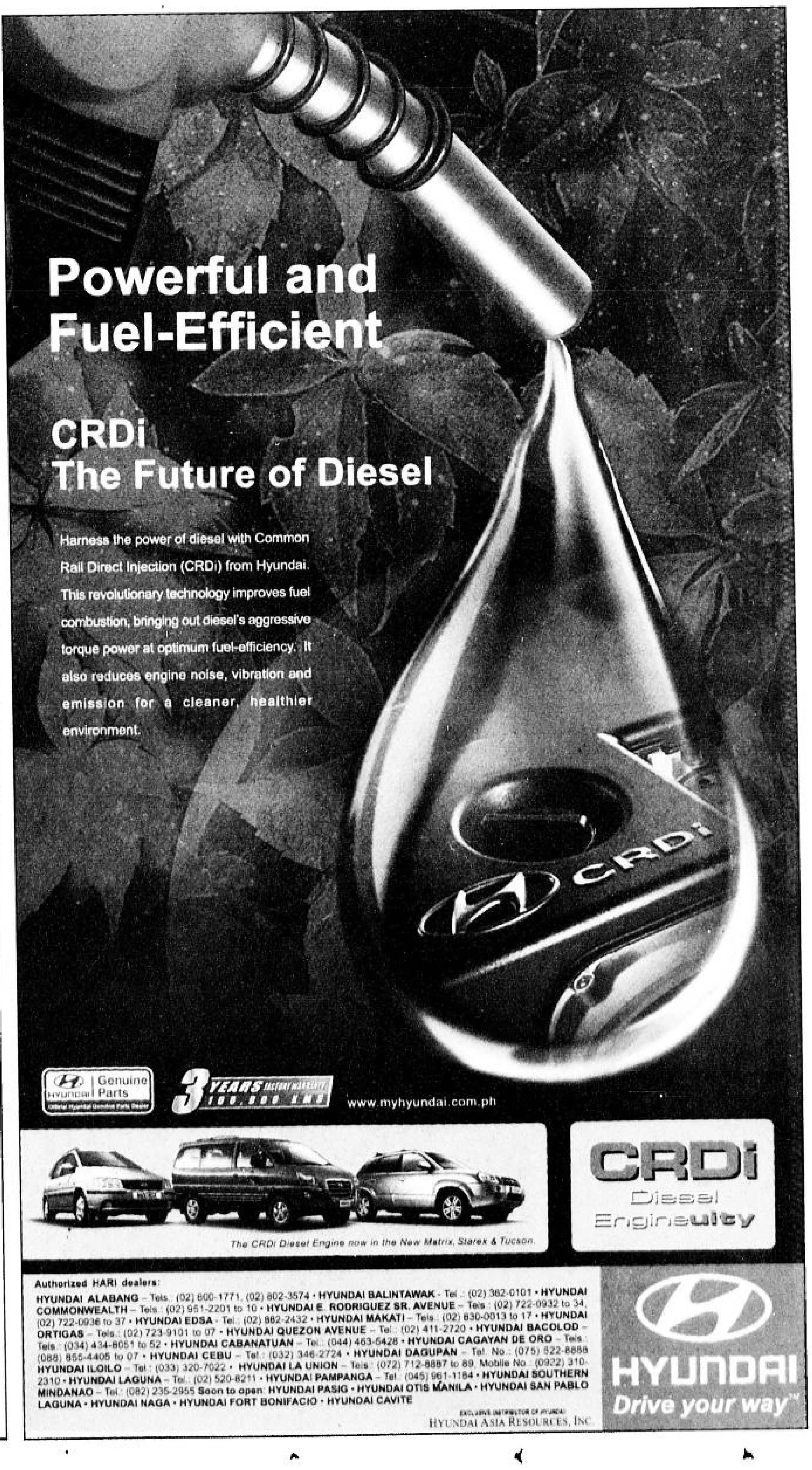
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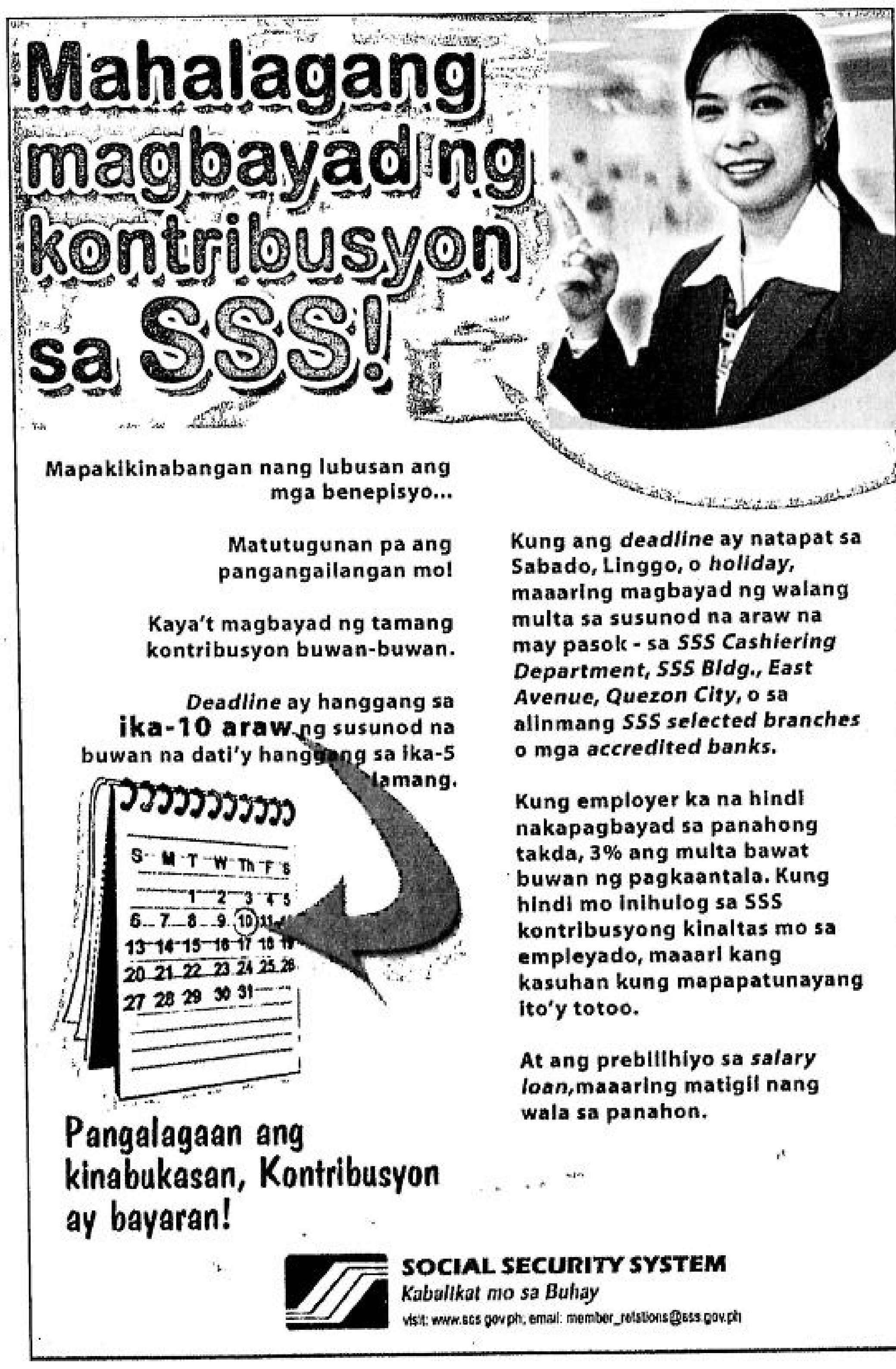
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China, Vietnam report new bird flu outbreaks

BEIJING—CHINA AND VIETNAM each confirmed new bird flu outbreaks and warned of more infections to come, amid predictions that a flu pandemic could kill up to 3 million people in Asia and plunge the world into recession.

The latest Chinese outbreak, discovered on Oct. 26, killed 8,940 chickens and prompted officials to destroy 369,900 other birds in Badaohao village in Liaoning province east of Beijing, the Agriculture Ministry said late Thursday.

China has reported three other bird flu outbreaks since Oct. 14. No human cases have been reported, but authorities have warned that one is inevitable if the world's most populous country fails to contain outbreaks in chickens and ducks.

In Vietnam, more than 3,000 poultry died or were culled this week in three villages in Bac Giang province, about 60 km northeast of Hanoi, provincial vice chair Nguyen Dang said Friday.

Vietnamese officials have banned the transport of poultry to or from the three affected villages, and the villages and those around them have been disinfected and poultry have been vaccinated, said provincial chair Nguyen Dang Khoa.

Hoang Van Nam, deputy director of the Animal Health Department, said more bird flu cases are likely.

"We expect more outbreaks, not just in Bac Giang, but also in other provinces," he said. "Cooler weather now makes it easier for the virus to spread." November to March is when Vietnam has reported most of its bird flu cases and deaths.

Vietnam began vaccinating its poultry flocks in early August, but its deadline of completing the vaccination of 150 million birds by mid-November may be delayed by at least two weeks because of a shortage of vaccines imported from China.

The deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu has killed at least 62 people — including 41 in Vietnam, according to World Health Organization figures — and resulted in the deaths of more than 100 million chickens in Asia since 2003. *AP*

Cheney aide pleads not guilty

WASHINGTON—VICE PRESIDENT Dick Cheney's former aide, Lewis Libby, pleaded not guilty on Thursday to charges in the CIA leak probe, and his lawyer promised to fight it out in a public trial that could put a spotlight on how the White House made its case for the Iraq war.

"With respect, your honor, I plead not guilty," Libby told federal Judge Reggie Walton during his 10-minute arraignment.

Walton, who did not schedule a trial date, set Libby's next court appearance for Feb. 3. But lawyers warned that the case could get bogged down for months in a fight over classified documents underpinning the criminal charges.

Cheney and top officials could be summoned to testify at an eventual trial.

Libby, 55, resigned as Cheney's chief of staff on Friday after he was indicted on five counts of obstructing justice, perjury and lying in the two-year investigation into the leak of covert CIA operative Valerie Plame's identity. If convicted, Libby faces a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison.

Plame's identity was leaked to the media in July 2003 after her diplomat husband, Joseph Wilson, accused the Bush administration of twisting intelligence on weapons of mass destruction to justify the war in Iraq.

Libby's newly hired defense lawyer, Theodore Wells, promised a vigorous court battle.

"He (Libby) has declared that he intends to fight the charges in the indictment and he has declared that he wants to clear his good name and he wants a jury trial," Wells said after Libby was fingerprinted and had his picture taken by marshals at the federal courthouse.

Before any trial, Libby could still try to cut a deal with special counsel Patrick Fitzgerald to plead guilty to lesser charges and cooperate in the investigation, though Wells sought to play down that possibility.

President George W. Bush's top political adviser, Karl Rove, was not indicted on Friday along with Libby. But lawyers involved in the case said Rove remained under investigation and may still be charged in the case. Fitzgerald is expected to inform Rove of his decision in the coming weeks.

Libby's indictment was a damaging blow to a White House already reeling from the mounting US death toll in the Iraq war, the bungled response to Hurricane Katrina and the withdrawal of US Supreme Court nominee Harriet Miers under fire from Bush's conservative power base.

In a letter to Cheney, Senate Democratic leaders accused him of replacing Libby with "two staffers who have themselves been connected with the Plame affair." *Reuters*

PRAYERS AT RAMADAN'S END

Nawaar Farooq of Iowa City, Iowa, prays during rites marking the end of Ramadan at the Iowa City Mosque's new location Nov. 3.

AP

China boasts it will be top in tourism by 2017

BEIJING—CHINA WILL BECOME the world's top tourist destination by 2017, three years earlier than World Tourism Organization predictions, Xinhua news agency said on Friday.

The WTO has forecast China will receive 137 million inbound tourists in 2020, but that goal will likely be achieved earlier due to the current boom in tourism, Xinhua said, citing an official at the National Tourism Administration.

China received 41.76 million tourists who spent at least one night last year, ranked fourth in the world. France was number one.

China earned $25.7 billion from tourism last year, Xinhua said, providing jobs for some six million people.

But increasing numbers of Chinese are also traveling overseas, many for the first time, as years of double digit economic growth puts more money in people's pockets.

Almost 29 million Chinese went abroad on holiday last year, the report added, making China the single largest source of tourists in Asia.

That number is expected to reach 50 million by 2010, Xinhua said. *Reuters*

Emergency call after London bombings details harrowing scene

LONDON—ONE OF THE FIRST emergency calls made following the July 7 bomb attacks in London was aired for the first time on Thursday, detailing the harrowing scenes faced by witnesses.

In the tape, a man—breathing heavily and his voice almost drowned out by wailing sirens—describes seeing the dead and injured after an explosion on a bus during the morning rush hour.

Three other explosions had already occurred on the capital's Underground rail network. Fifty-six people died, including four apparent suicide bombers, in the worst terrorist atrocity on British soil.

The call was played at a City Hall meeting between members of a London Assembly committee reviewing the city's response to the attacks and the heads of the police, fire, ambulance and public transport services.

"Hi, um, there's a bus just exploded outside in Tavistock Square—just outside my window," the witness told the police operator.

"Tavistock Square?" asked the call handler.

"Yeah, in London, There's people lying on the ground and everything." "Right, and it was an explosion on the bus, was it?"

"Yeah, there's people lying in the road, there's a London bus, it's a (number) 30, I think.

"There's people trying to get out. I think there's ambulances on the way, but there's people dead and everything by the looks of it." "Okay" the operator was heard to say. "Right, the explosion happened a few minutes ago, huh?"

"Er, about two minutes ago." The bus bomb exploded at 9:47 am (0847 GMT), nearly an hour after the Underground blasts.

Andy Trotter, Deputy Chief Constable of British Transport Police, said the overall response of all services had been "excellent in trying circumstances" but accepted lessons needed to be learnt.

"We have been debriefing ever since, looking at ways we can improve," Trotter told the committee. "This could happen at any other stage in the future. *AFP*

Government Warning: Cigarette sm

US wall to keep Mexicans out

WASHINGTON—REPUBLICAN LAWMAKERS have introduced a bill to build a 3,200-kilometer wall along the US border with Mexico to keep illegal immigrants out.

The legislation aims to "create a border security fence from the Pacific Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico," said House of Representatives members Duncan Hunter of California and Virgil Goode of Virginia in a statement.

"Prior to Sept. 11, 2001, illegal immigration was considered a regional issue without national implications. We quickly learned on that day, however, that this is a national issue, affecting each and every American, not just those living in border communities like San Diego County," Hunter said.

Their True Enforcement and Border Security Act would also "authorize thousands of new border patrol officers, immigration investigators, attorneys and immigration judges," they said.

Hunter told CNN it was important to identify who crosses the border and who helps them do it.

About the cost and difficulty of building a wall along the entire border with Mexico, Hunter simply said: "It's a simple construction." While Hunter assured skeptics that a fence would work in keeping out unwanted immigrants, pointing to a successful 22-kilometer stretch of fence near San Diego, California, other Republican lawmakers were not so sure.

Rep. Jeff Flake of Arizona said that a fence would not work for half of the 400,000 immigrants that enter the United States every year and overstay their legal entry visas. *AFP*

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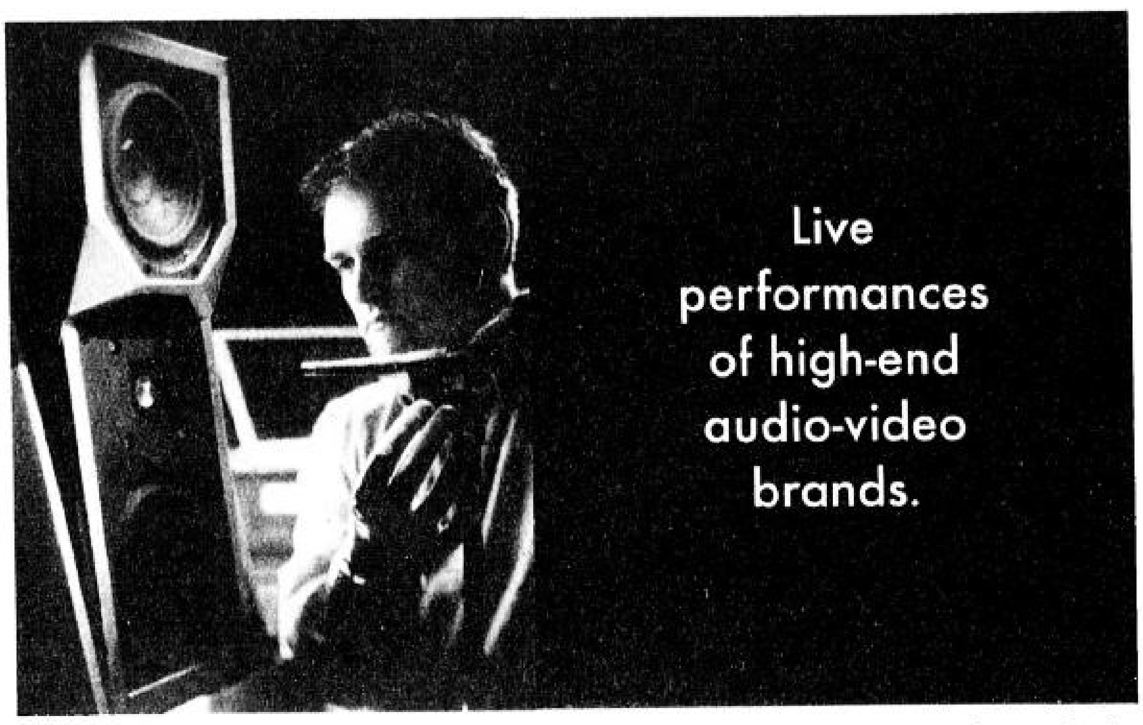
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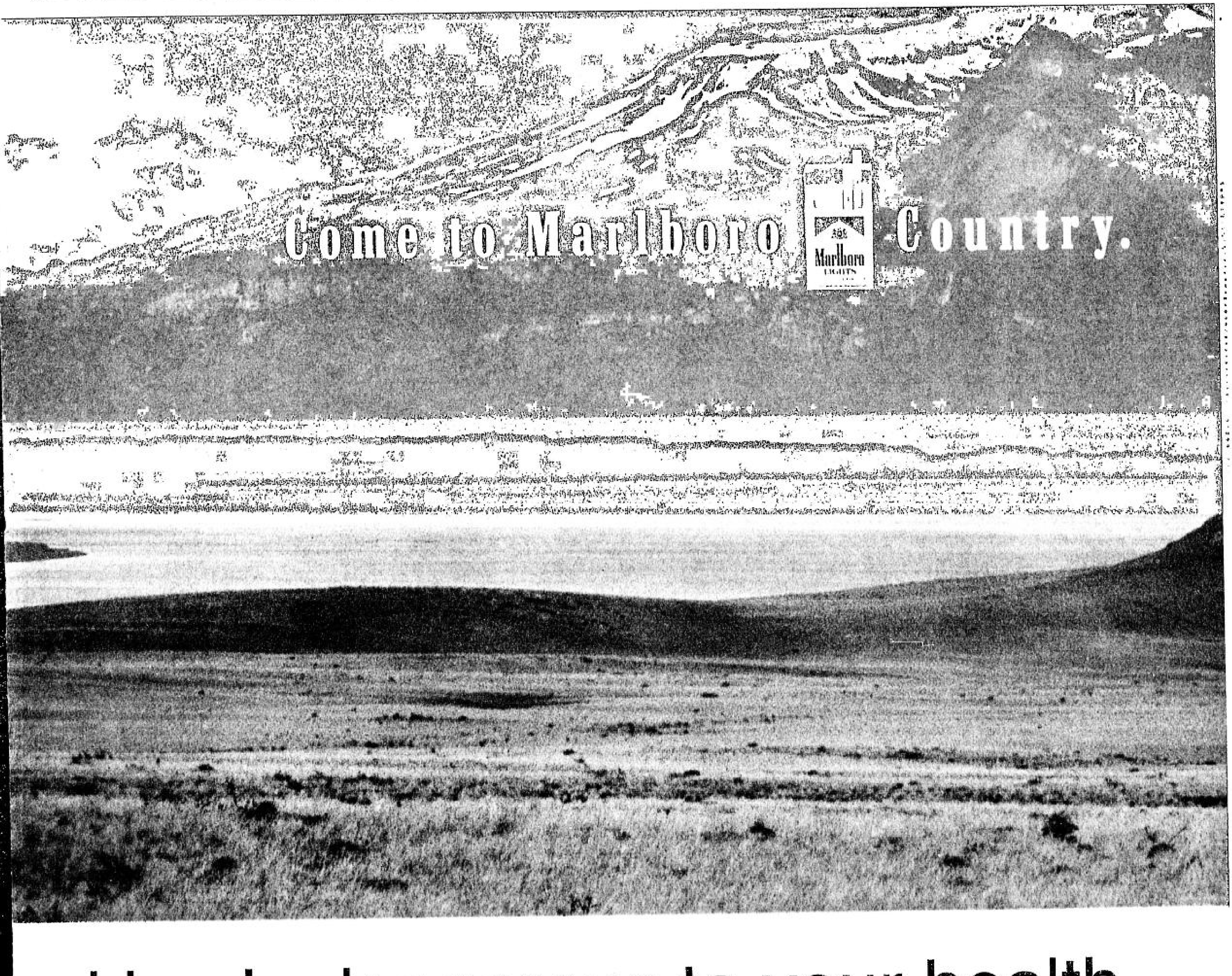

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OPINION

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Brainless

EDITORIAL

FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNDERSECRETARY FOR MIgrant Workers' Affairs Jose Brillantes wants to replace the brain drain phenomenon with what he calls "brain circulation." He cites what he calls a growing perception that migrant workers are an essential part of the development not only of the countries they move to but of the countries they leave. Essentially this means that countries that try to attract foreign workers have come to realize that it is in their interest to ensure a steady supply of those workers, and that includes helping the labor-exporting countries to keep producing such workers. The Philippines, then, according to Brillantes, should seek out ways to ensure that our highly skilled workers don't depart en masse.

How can this be done? Brillantes suggests stricter supervision over the recruiting process (which should mean establishing a process of identifying vital strategic professions which the country must safeguard); bilateral labor agreements between our country and countries that seek to attract skilled Filipino workers; encouraging investments in the Philippines to create or improve industries or professions here at home; signing on to the General Agreement on Trade and Services; and getting foreign aid to be earmarked toward education and training here at home.

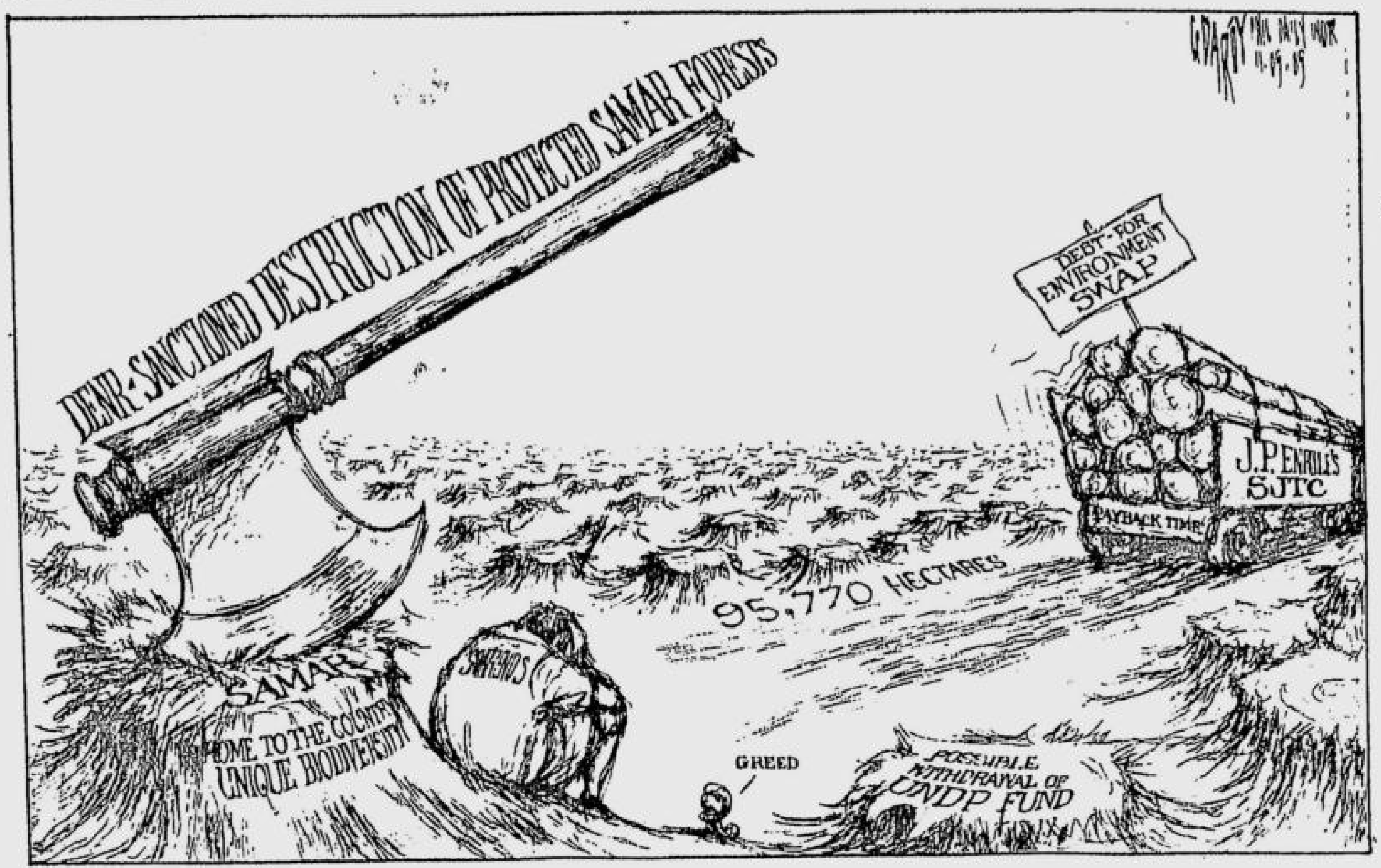
The proposals made by Brillantes and similar ones propounded by Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas are a step in the right direction. In recent years, the exportation of Philippine labor has made a rapid—and alarming—shift from blue-collar to white-collar workers, partially because traditional markets for blue-collar workers (construction workers, nannies, household help) have become mature and are thus no longer expanding at the rate they used to, and the opening up of new opportunities for white-collar workers abroad, such as information technology workers, nurses and caregivers for the aging populations of developed countries. The opening of more opportunities for nurses and caregivers, in particular, has led to an explosive increase in the export of medical workers, including the wholesale abandonment by Filipino doctors of their profession to take on what they considered previously as a lesser livelihood, which is nursing.

The effects have been dramatic: good nurses are now hard to find, hospitals are finding themselves understaffed, and an entire generation of doctors has decided to go into exile. Accompanying the decimation of our doctors and nurses is the sudden overexpansion of nursing and caregiver schools, resulting in the proliferation of diploma mills whose substandard graduates are harming both the local medical industry and the country's ability to maintain a good reputation abroad. Add to this the added impetus to a national economy built on exporting not only brawn but brains, and you have a recipe for building a parasitical economy in which millions working abroad keep the economy afloat, without building up a nation worth coming back home to—really a recipe for national suicide.

Business journalist Tony Lopez has estimated that one of every two Filipino families is supported by an overseas worker. That's eight million OFWs, representing half of the 15 million households in the Philippines, and remitting $9 billion to $12 billion a year—"enough to fuel consumer spending… [which is] why the economy is growing, because of consumption, [but] without creating jobs significantly."

His analysis is shared by many other observers, who consider the phenomenon as both a boon and a bane. The advantage is that it makes the country essentially buoyant, immune from the effects of local politics (and misrule). The disadvantage is that it breeds a sense of impunity on the part of OFWs and their dependents here at home (why care about the country, when their destinies are determined by those working abroad?).

The government must formalize the policy mentioned by Brillantes, but go beyond it and recognize that there is a national emergency. The country is rapidly approaching the stage where its best minds have left or are leaving, and no one is being left behind either to attend to the needs of those left behind, or even train a new generation of white-collar workers. Left to their own devices, a desperate middle and professional class will flee, leaving a country that is incapable of replacing them.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Criticism of the courts

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

WTH ALL THE BICKERING BETWEEN Congress and the President, many citizens may think that the only faultless department of the government is the Judiciary. That is a naïve and ignorant assumption. This so-called bastion of the people's rights has its share of the imperfections of our public service like corruption, inefficiency, toadying to political authority, greed for publicity, personal ambition and other similar weaknesses.

The reason why it is not subjected to the same criticism that is being made against the legislators and the chief executive is the contempt power of the courts. The Supreme Court has allowed even unrestrained attacks against the other two departments but has reserved special protection and immunity for the Judiciary.

While we may freely comment on any act of Malacañang and Congress, we are not allowed to do so on any case that is *pendente lite*, or still under study by a court of justice. The absurd reason is that we may unduly influence the judge or even the justices in deciding the case. This is an admission of judicial weakness that has been consistently sustained since it was first announced in the 1939 case of People vs. Alarcon, 69 Phil. 265.

Even if the case has already been decided, we must observe yet another caution. Although we are now permitted to comment on the decision, we must do so with the utmost courtesy and respect for the court that rendered it. While we may unleash vitriolic attacks against the President or any member of Congress, we must carefully choose our language in criticizing any judge, especially the justices of the Supreme Court.

The justification given is that judges and especially justices are entitled to special respect from the public. The implication is that the President of the Philippines and the members of Congress do not deserve similar regard and may be wantonly abused in the name of freedom of expression. But not the Judiciary.

During my years on the Supreme Court, I waited for an opportunity to try to revise the Alarcon case, but that occasion never came. I have tried to provoke such an opportunity in several articles I have written in this column, but also in vain. I am still hoping that the case will be re-examined and abandoned, to place the courts on the same level as the political departments.

Only the gullible will suppose that the Judiciary is flawless unlike Congress and the President. In fact, the Supreme Court has made many serious mistakes that are now part of the law of the land because it says so. Among a few exceptional cases, Avelino vs. Cuenco, 83 Phil. 17, was originally dismissed by the Supreme Court on the ground that it raised a political question. The justices later reconsidered their cop-out when they were scolded by Jose P. Laurel and Claro M. Recto.

Many other judicial errors have prevailed, as in the case of Mabanag v. Lopez Vito, 78 Phil. 1, where the Supreme Court cravenly ruled that it had no jurisdiction to annul the unconstitutional congressional resolution proposing the Parity Amendment. Fortunately, such evasiveness was subsequently rejected in Tañada v. Cuenco, 100 Phil. 1101. But other erroneous decisions have not been protested except in whispers because of popular timidity against the anger of the courts.

In Imelda Marcos vs. Sandiganbayan, 297 SCRA 105, the Supreme Court en banc reversed the petitioner's conviction for graft by the respondent court and the Third Division of the High Tribunal. In Tabuena v. Sandiganbayan, 268 SCRA 332, the accused were absolved for obeying a "lawful" order of Marcos to transfer P55 million of public funds to him without accountability. In Manila Prince Hotel vs. GSIS, 267 SCRA 406, a pre-qualified Malayan highest bidder was pre-empted by a defeated but influential local businessman close to the Court. In the last case on the Frivaldo citizenship, 257 SCRA 727, the petitioner was finally sustained through a strained reasoning that was supported only by five justices, three others concurring only in the result and four *pro hac vice* (only for that case), with the chief justice dissenting. The decision declaring the second Davide impeachment attempt unconstitutional, 415 SCRA 44, covered one-third of the volume when the *ratio decidendi* was contained in only one paragraph like a minute resolution.

In these and other questionable decisions of the Supreme Court, criticism was subdued because of the Alarcon doctrine. Denunciation of the political rulings of the Supreme Court during martial law was absolutely prohibited and risked vengeful castigation. The above-mentioned cases happened after Edsa I but were still not boldly challenged except by a few reckless zealots.

Under the Equal Protection Clause, persons or things similarly situated should be treated alike, both in the rights conferred and the responsibilities imposed. The three major branches of the government are co-equal under the Constitution. But the Supreme Court believes that the Judiciary is a department aloof in its ivory tower and should not be similarly censured as Congress and the President.

Anti-Muslim bias

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO KNOW more about two of the longest-running armed conflicts in the world, which just happen to be in the Philippines—the Moro and the communist struggles against the Philippine government—I suggest that they read the 2005 Philippine Human Development Report (PHDR). It is as good a source as any, culled from at least 12 papers commissioned from different experts, and is probably more reader friendly than most, with all kinds of boxes and emphases supplied to ensure attention is given where needed.

And if I am accused of a personal bias toward it, I readily admit to it, since I have been part of the Philippine Human Development Network (or HDN, which produces the reports) since its inception. I am proud of the association, and I also must disclose that my daughter Toby had a significant role in putting the latest report together.

On the other hand, the credentials of those behind the report, starting with HDN president Arsy Balisacan, plus executive committee members Noel de Dios (who has sweated blood to produce all the reports so far), Gelia Castillo, Cynthia Bautista, Jeannie Miralao, plus the contributors, those from government, academe and non-government organizations who provided substantive inputs during the consultation workshops, all guarantee quality.

In the discussion on the Moro armed conflict, what should be a revelation to many people is that both Muslims and Christians, living in harmony before the conflict, were traumatized, some clarifying that the war is not one of Muslims versus Christians. At least, the Moros do not attribute their situation today to Christians but to the government.

Another interesting revelation are the results of an attempt to measure the bias, if any, against Muslims. In the course of the research and workshops, participants recounted personal experiences about how Muslims were shut out of jobs or study opportunities and how people expressed gratification that Muslims were "good" even if they "are Muslims" (I was in some of those workshops when the tales were told, and I myself was shocked). One of the stories told was about Dr. Jamail A. Kamlian, vice chancellor for Research and Extension of Mindanao State University, whose application was turned down when he tried to buy a lot in Frontiera Subdivision, Cagayan de Oro City, after the sellers who made the offer to his Catholic wife found out she is married to a Muslim. Or another Muslim professional whose application for a loan was turned down even as the loan of her subordinate, of which she was the guarantor, was approved. These and other anecdotes in Appendix 1.1 will curl your toes.

In order to determine whether these qualitative findings were indicative of a wider phenomena, the HDN worked with Pulse Asia to design a 16-question survey, including four "social distance" questions, asking respondents to choose between two people alike in all other relevant aspects but with one having a Christian-sounding name and the other a Muslim-sounding name as possible boarder, domestic help, employee or neighbor; five "personal traits" questions (relating to industry, honesty, peaceful disposition, trustworthiness and fanaticism); five "stereotype" questions which look into agreement with stereotypical images of Muslims (oppressive to women, prone to run amok, hate non-Muslims, are terrorists or extremists, do not consider themselves as Filipinos); one question asking for the respondent's source of information on Muslims; and a last question asking the respondent to name a group that she/he associates with the word "terrorism" (unaided recall).

Some of the findings: Less than 10 percent choose the person with the Muslim-sounding name, while slightly less than half choose the person with the Christian-sounding name and about the same percentage say either will do. The majority of Filipinos think that Muslims are more prone to run amok (55 percent of respondents), that they are probably terrorists or extremists (47 percent), although they are probably not oppressive to women (59 percent). Anti-Muslim bias appears to be associated primarily with geographic location (Visayans tend to have a more negative view) and age (54 years and over are more biased, 35 years and below less biased). A larger percentage of Visayans exhibit bias with respect to stereotype, with a majority (62 percent to 71 percent) agreeing with four of the negative stereotypes, and a plurality (42 percent) believing the Muslims are probably oppressive to women. On the other hand, a majority of Mindanaoans, while believing that Muslims are not oppressive to women (58 percent) and regarding themselves as Filipinos (57 percent), appear to regard Muslims as violent, believing that they are terrorists and extremists (56 percent) and prone to run amok (54 percent).

Using specially constructed indices of anti-Muslim bias, survey-weighted logistic regressions and the like, the unequivocal conclusion is that a considerable percentage of Filipinos (33 percent to 39 percent) are biased against Muslims notwithstanding the fact that only about 14 percent of them have had direct dealings with Muslims.

Incidentally, the recent SWS national survey which featured three questions on the perception of Islam, one question on the extent of knowledge of that religion, and only one question on the perception of Muslims, is hardly comparable to the detail and depth of the HDN-Pulse Asia effort.

Bottom line: Unless we take steps to overcome that prejudice, the Moro conflict may never end.

Santos case shows anti-terror bill badly needed

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE OF THE ARMED Forces of the Philippines (Isafp) has understandably cited a lot of the "circumstantial" facts surrounding the "sudden" bailout of suspected terrorist Tyrone "Dawud" Santos, allegedly the second in command of the radical Rajah Solaiman Movement (RSM). ABS-CBN has defended outright its anchor, Julius Babao, who was alluded to by the military intelligence as possibly having facilitated the bail for Santos, even though Isafp chief Rear Admiral Tirso Danga has admitted his agency has no hard evidence against Babao. According to the military, Santos' lawyer had earlier announced in the courtroom that his client had no money to post the P200,000 bail, but after Babao entered the court room and the three of them huddled together, the lawyer immediately announced they could already post bail. The judge ordered Santos released. The giant network has demanded a public apology from President Macapagal-Arroyo who had earlier told INQUIRER columnist Ramon Tulfo that she was "very disturbed" by the Isafp report, which detailed the circumstances surrounding the grant of bail.

* * *

Sen. Sergio Osmeña, who's married to a member of the Lopez clan that owns the giant network, denounced the Palace and Isafp for what he called "squid tactics to divert public attention from the real issues hounding the administration." He also said the move was meant to put pressure on the media. But Osmeña's claim does not free Babao, who has voluntarily gone on leave while the network conducts an investigation, from explaining the circumstances behind the bail, if only to safeguard his reputation—especially since the suspected terrorist rode off with him in ABS-CBN's van afterwards. Summit Insurance, the bail bond company, should also explain what happened.

* * *

It has been asserted by some military officers that if Babao really facilitated Santos' bail, that's tantamount to aiding and abetting an enemy of the state. This is an old issue that has hounded media in various parts of the world: where does one draw the line between journalistic initiative and the dictates of national interest? But what's more interesting is the defensive posture of some senators regarding the need for an anti-terrorism law. Sen. Panfilo Lacson was quoted as saying that whether Babao or Jonathan Tiongco facilitated that bail is not important. He claimed that had President Arroyo "seriously pushed Congress" to pass his anti-terrorism bill in 2001 and again in 2004, the terrorist would not be free on bail now. Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, on the other hand, pointed out the obvious: that bail is perfectly legal under our laws if the offense is bailable.

But the question is, why do the members of Congress have to be pushed to pass that law, when terrorism has been exploding all over the world since 9/11 and many countries have enacted their own law to protect themselves? The problem is that Congress, especially the Senate, has been too preoccupied with trying to nail down GMA through those interminable hearings instead of nailing down the terrorists, and giving the government the legal weapon to keep them nailed.

* * *

The case of Santos shows that we need that anti-terrorism law. After 9/11, several bills were filed in the 12th Congress, and passing one such law was agreed upon in the Ledac meetings as a priority measure. A bill was passed on second reading by the House and was due for interpellation already, but countless objections raised by leftist groups stalled its passage until it was overtaken by events. In the 13th Congress, several bills were filed, but this time opposition senators raised concern that a "dictatorial" GMA would use anti-terror provisions to persecute her political enemies. Lacson, in fact, withdrew his authorship of one of the anti-terrorism bills.

* * *

Tyrone Santos was jailed and charged under PD 1866, the law against illegal possession of firearms and explosives. This is a bailable offense under the Revised Penal Code, regardless if one is caught with a roomful of explosives. But with the recent bombings here and in various parts of the world, the clamor to add more teeth to existing laws escalated. Meetings were held, such as those in Ledac and recently in Nica, to which opposition senators such as Lacson and Juan Ponce Enrile were invited. What proved difficult was reconciling the various bills in order to satisfy the paranoid opposition and the leftist groups which cited perceived dangers to human rights. The Palace had to wait for a consolidated bill before it could certify it as urgent. Last Oct. 10, GMA certified it to the House, and on Oct. 12 to the Senate.

Santos' case should now knock some sense into the minds of our lawmakers who should pass that bill ASAP. They should not wait for a terrible event to happen before they act.

* * *

On a favorite ministry: With Christmas just around the corner, thoughts gather around the family, with parents, children and *apos* sharing love for one another. This is also the perfect time for married couples who have problems to patch up their differences, rebuild failing relationships and save their marriage—perhaps as a Christmas gift to their family. Retrouvaille, the worldwide ministry for troubled marriages, will have its last healing weekend seminar for the year from Friday to Sunday, Nov. 11 to 13, at the Mother of Mercy Spiritual Center, SVD Road, Tagaytay City. Spiritual director Fr. Dave Clay will cut short his vacation in the United States just for this seminar. Retrouvaille has helped many married couples overcome their problems and rekindle their relationship. For inquiries, call Nes and Inday at 0916-443-8346 and 938-9719; Ding and Belen, 0916-573-0097; or Danny and Neomi, 0916-395-4642 and 681-5746. All calls are treated confidentially.

Simple joys

YOUNG BLOOD

Sharon Michelle L. Buhatin

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—**Ed.**

I TURNED A YEAR OLDER A FEW WEEKS AGO AND frankly I was not thrilled. It dawned on me that in four years' time, I'll be 30.

When you are 5 years old, people ask you what you want to be when you grow up. You come up with answers that your parents taught you: a lawyer, doctor, nurse, teacher or what have you. I remember quite well that at such an early age, my answer always was: to be a teacher. For my birthday and even Christmas, I wished for a mini blackboard and a box of multi-colored chalk. There was a time when I constantly nagged my Lolo to buy me a blackboard which had the English alphabet and, on its left corner, a tiny clock. When he finally bought it, I thought I was ready to die. My Lolo had it nailed on a wall so I could finally live out my dream.

When you are 10, people admonish you not to butt into the conversation of elders because that's impolite. But when you get into a fight with your younger siblings, the same people remind you that you're no longer a kid and so you're supposed to know right from wrong. So how is a 10-year-old supposed to act?

When you are a girl of 15, everybody warns you about boys and tells you to stay away from them because they're no good. In high school, I got scared to death when a classmate asked if he could walk me home. The nerve! Even if it was the 1990s, teenage couples were frowned upon. Unlike these days when high school kids hug and hold hands in public and, when they notice people staring at them, they take it a step further. How I miss my days of youthful innocence.

When you are 20, fresh out of college and ready to conquer the world, you think you can finally have control over your own life: you can make decisions, you can go out without asking for permission. But before long, you are reminded that you are still the same dependent, immature, good-for-nothing rascal.

When I finally got a job as a teacher, I began planning my life. I had so many things in mind: a master's degree, a fat bank account, a trophy boyfriend—my list went on and on.

Then reality hit me like a ton of bricks. I still did not have a life. The very thought of enjoying independence thrilled me. I wanted to move out of the house, but quickly dropped the idea when I realized that I couldn't afford it. Which meant that I still had to follow house rules, observe curfew, and limit my phone calls, etc.

When I turned 26, I told myself I've had enough. My pet peeve now is being asked when I will tie the knot. The heck! I've seen so many failed marriages so I'm starting to have second thoughts about taking the plunge.

I also seem to have developed an attachment to the single life—after all it's the only kind I know. I'm used to being on my own—at least when it comes to deciding what value meal to order or what movie to watch. But seriously, I'm having a hard time managing myself, so how can I be expected to care for somebody else? Sure, I want to be somebody's object of affection but until the right man comes along, I will be singing the same tune.

And oh, about my job. Anybody who has been doing the same thing for six years will eventually experience burnout. I'm living proof of it. During my first two years as a teacher, every morning was a blessing to me. It still is, but in a totally different way.

I used to look forward to each morning, knowing I would be doing what I always wanted to do, which was teaching. I was idealistic then. I was convinced that I could change the world.

I was proven wrong. On my third year, I became aware of the tricks of the trade. I've learned that what you see is not always what it appears to be. I have accepted the harsh reality that I have to deal with rude, egoistic and arrogant people, who would not think twice before making my life miserable. There are people who derive pleasure from seeing others in pain.

Despite this, I still enjoy my job but I must say I am no longer as passionate about it as I used to be. However, I look at each morning as an opportunity to revive whatever was lost in me: my passion, my idealism, my belief in the natural goodness of man.

I cannot turn back the hands of time. Gone are the days when I would giggle at the sight of my high school crush or when a scented stationery could give me a big thrill. The innocence of youth is truly one of the best things in life. If we could only nurture the child within us, then we will always appreciate the simple joys of life.

Sharon Michelle L. Buhatin, 26, is an English instructor at the Tarlac College of Agriculture.

The case of Julius Babao

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THINGS SEEM TO BE COMING TO A HEAD IN the case of TV/radio broadcaster Julius Babao and allegations made by both President Macapagal-Arroyo and the Intelligence Service of the AFP that he had posted bail for a suspected terrorist.

To recap, during the bail hearing last April of Tyrone "Dawud" Santos, second in command (to his brother Ahmad) of the Rajah Solaiman Movement, a group that allegedly has links to the terror network Jemaah Islamiyah, Santos' lawyer Nicomedes Martelino reportedly told the court that his client would not be able to produce the P200,000 bail that had been imposed because Santos was unemployed. But during a recess, Martelino, according to intelligence reports, approached a group that supposedly included Babao and soon after was able to raise the needed amount. Subsequently, Santos was able to leave his detention cell and was "whisked away" by an ABS-CBN vehicle.

That would have been that, except that at a recent dinner with media people, including INQUIRER columnist Ramon Tulfo, the President, supposedly in response to a question raised by Tulfo, "confirmed" that a media person, identified as Babao, had helped spring a suspected terrorist. A major flap was raised when Tulfo used the information in his column, leading to a storm of accusations and counter-accusations, including some confusion on whether the President's revelation had been given on an "off-the-record" basis.

The latest word on this controversy is that ABS-CBN, Babao's home network, has demanded an apology from Malacañang and the Isafp for "maligning the reputation" of Babao who, aside from reporting, also anchors the early evening newscast "TV Patrol World" and the early morning magazine show "Magandang Umaga Pilipinas." Meantime, the network has said it is conducting an internal investigation on possible ethical violations that Babao may have committed in his dealings with Santos. A report is set to be released next week.

* * *

WHATEVER conclusions ABS-CBN management arrives at, or whatever information the Isafp may further unearth, several issues need to be cleared on this matter, which has impact on the entire media profession and even human rights in general.

First, it's disturbing that Rear Admiral Tirso Danga, who heads Isafp, insists that if indeed Babao posted bail for Santos, the broadcaster would be guilty of "providing aid and comfort to a terrorist." But isn't posting bail for a bailable offense a basic right of every citizen? Even if Santos were Osama bin Laden himself, if he was facing charges for a crime for which bail could be posted, he had every right to raise bail, and any other person, including a journalist, had the right to assist him in his need.

Regardless of whether the Isafp's findings were based on circumstantial evidence or even if it had footage showing Babao handing over the bail bond himself, it should be clear that he did not commit any crime. If a judge says a suspect is entitled to bail, then that suspect is free to go after posting bail, regardless of how strong law enforcers' suspicions are.

There may indeed be basis for the contention that it wasn't Babao's fault that Santos was able to walk out of detention, but that fault must be laid instead at the door of Congress which so far has not been able to pass an anti-terrorism bill that would have made it possible for authorities to hold suspected terrorists indefinitely. But if we go by the conduct of the President and of the military in this instance, particularly how casually and carelessly they would tar with the label of "terrorist" anyone who gets in their way, it would seem that even the proposed bill needs further scrutiny.

* * *

THOUGH Babao has reportedly been instructed by his employers not to talk directly about this case, people familiar with his involvement with Santos say the broadcaster first met Santos about two years ago when Santos approached him for help after the military arrested the Santos brothers on suspicion of being Islamic terrorists. (The Santos brothers are believed to be converts to Islam.)

About a year after this initial encounter, Santos again contacted Babao when Santos found his picture on a poster released by the military on "wanted" terrorists. On the evening "TV Patrol" was to air Babao's interview with Santos (who was shown tearfully denying the accusation and pleading with the President for protection), the broadcaster reportedly received a call from Santos' wife telling him that her husband had been arrested anew.

If Babao is guilty of anything, it may be overeagerness to score a scoop and air an exclusive, which was the reason he used his ties with Santos' family to be let in during the bail hearing and why he supposedly insisted that Santos be driven directly to ABS-CBN for an interview before any other network or news organization got to the accused terrorist.

* * *

ALREADY, I fear Babao's case has had a chilling effect on the media, especially the broadcast media which relies on spot coverage with little luxury for pondering the ethical ramifications or even legal implications of going after a story.

But it would be worthwhile to point out, too, that the suspicions about Babao's links to a terrorist would have remained "raw" information had not the President chosen to make it public. Malacañang has thrown the ball to the Isafp to explain its report, but isn't the President, as commander in chief, ultimately responsible for disclosing sensitive information, especially information that could destroy a media person's credibility and career?

Indeed, many times in a journalist's career, he will find himself caught between the two contending missions of "comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable."

A fair to remember

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

WHEN INDIAN AMBASSADOR NEVREKHA Sharma called to ask if I was interested in attending the Autumn Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair in New Delhi, I didn't hesitate to say yes. I have to confess the fair wasn't the main attraction, it was the Taj Mahal and the other glories of Indian architecture. Imagine seeing cities 5,000 years old, with exotic names like Lahore, Peshawar, Hyderabad, Jaipur with the Palace of the Wind and the pink city—it was irresistible. Before the official letter from Deputy Director R.K. Srivastava of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts arrived, my bags were nearly packed.

For reasons neither you nor I would find reasonable, we have no direct flights to India and must go through Singapore, Hong Kong or Bangkok, and due to the schedule of flights arriving from Europe, you generally deplane at midnight. I was later to find out that it took 48 hours for some of the buyers to arrive from Peru and Patagonia and only a little less for those from Botswana and Nairobi. The Export Promotion Council is making a big promotional push for its handicrafts and had sent invites far and wide.

The first surprise was finding traffic clogged on the highway to the hotel at 2 a.m. It's almost like rush hour and, no wonder, when you consider that Delhi has 10 million official inhabitants and 3.5 million vehicles on the road. The subway facilities being constructed may ease the situation, though at the moment, it looks like someone dusted everything with baby powder.

The following morning, it was off to Pragati Maidan for the opening of the fair and a press conference. The sheer size of the area—20,000 sq m and 15 huge pavilions for 1,800 exhibitors—caused acute envy on my part, especially when the assistant manager, Mr. Srivastav, mentioned that he had been to Manila for the Citem show in 1994 and saw ways to improve theirs. It's a good thing evil thoughts can't cause too much harm because no one in our Department of Trade and Industry would have been left standing by now.

Most of you shoppers and lovers of 168, Juan Luna Mall and Shopsville are familiar with Indian handicrafts. Who doesn't know pashmina or the saris with their vivid vibrant colors? For the past two years, friends of mine have been wearing the finest Indian embroidered cotton shirts with their Levis and two weeks before leaving, I had bought a pair of silver slippers full of *borloloy,* choosing from among the dozens displayed in the stalls in Divisoria selling Indian goods.

There were, however, certain items I could not find later at the open market at Jan Path: the silk tassels I had found at the Bombay Company store in the West Coast (these stores can be found nationwide in the United States and they sell mostly Oriental goods though not from the Philippines) and crystal decanters with silver handles. Perhaps these were only meant for export.

Some of the economic figures that emerged while I was gaining weight at the press lunch from the buffet of Indian cuisine that certainly went beyond *tandoori* chicken and rice *biryani* are impressive. While many believed the 21st century belongs to China, they are now reevaluating and starting to believe it will also be India's. (A friend commented that the scuttlebutt is that America will be the scientific center of the world, China the manufacturing center, India the technological center, Europe the geriatric center and Africa the graveyard. No, don't bother to ask where we stand. No doubt still arguing as to who will be the speaker and what form of government is best or did they cheat or didn't they and our Supreme Court will still be dipping its sticky fingers into economic matters and giving away heritage buildings to idiots.)

Consider that their textile export for 2003-2004 was $12.29 billion and the growth of that sector is 15 to 20 percent average. (Remember, too, that Ilocos used to grow cotton and we were exporting fabrics.) By 2010, they intend to have $100 billion worth of textile exports. Aside from what we know of their goods, which are basically silk saris and cotton shirts, these fabrics are being transformed into bed spreads and covers, table, kitchen and bathroom linens, quilts, rugs and floor covers. A lot is being done for natural fiber floorings from rattan, bamboo and wicker. Go ahead, weep.

Other exports are metal wares ($770.36 million), scarves, shawls embroidered wares ($1.3 billion), and miscellaneous handicrafts including pottery, porcelain, glass, jewelry ($600 million).

Finally I decided to concentrate on the *paneer tikka*, which is Indian cottage cheese marinated in chick peas in the form of paste and spices, *tandoori murgh* (kebabs flavored with yogurt and powdered cumin seeds), and the infinite varieties of curries that included mutton, chicken and shrimp. I suddenly developed an inordinate fondness for *dal* (lentils) flavored with cumin and onions. They have black lentils cooked overnight on the *tandoor* that is to die for (it's bad for the figure but good for your feelings of well-being).

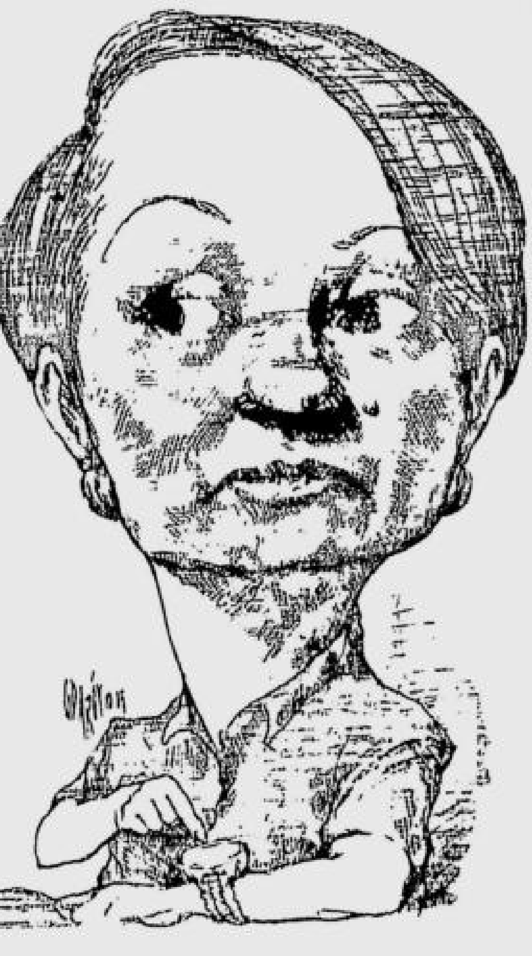
That evening Mr. Srivastava and the Export Promotion Council invited the group to dinner at Grand Meridien where I met one of our countrymen, PJ Aranador, whose team of three other Filipinos was hired to help in the Aggressive International Marketing Project for North East India. Their pavilion was called "Essential India" and together with their Indian counterparts they analyze, evaluate and develop products for export.

More on PJ as soon as I find him and the new India Expo Centre & Mart, opening in January.

* * *

Comments at bambiharper@yahoo.com

IN THE NEWS



President Macapagal-Arroyo

Who are for retrieval of logs?

THIS REFERS TO THE NEWS ITEM, TItled "Quezon folk seek more time to retrieve logs" (PDI, 9/23/05), on the proposal to extend the suspension period for the log ban and/or the retrieval operation of strayed logs and forest products until December 2005.

The proponents are said to belong to the Reina (Real-Infanta-Nakar) Multi-Sectoral Executive Committee on Strayed Wood Stock Retrieval, Utilization and Disposition. Their proposal is reportedly based on Environment Secretary Michael Defensor's memorandum "allowing the retrieval and movement of logs and wood products in Quezon and Aurora for 60 days as part of government disaster preparedness program." The program was supposed to end technically on Oct. 2, 2005.

The Church people in the Reina area and the indigenous peoples (IPs) in the Sierra Madre Mountains were reported to be enthusiastically supportive of the proposal to extend the suspension period. We, of the Prelature of Infanta, deny that we support this proposal of the Reina Multi-Sectoral Executive Committee. And on behalf of the biggest Agta organization in the area which we represent, we also deny the group's reported enthusiastic support for the proposal.

We are aware, however, that unscrupulous organizations and selfish individuals are using the Agta communities to advance their financial interests.

As one of the pioneer and principal rehabilitation agencies in the disaster-stricken towns, we firmly believe that the rampant abuse of our remaining forest and aquamarine resources (due to merciless killing of trees, poisoning of river tributaries and pulverizing of corals and fish habitats) are committed repeatedly by the same culprits in high and mighty places and by well-connected, unscrupulous private groups and individuals who cannot be punished because of their power and influence.

We do not want the recurrence of last year's catastrophic floods, mudflows and landslides, which killed thousands of people, destroyed billions of pesos worth of property and brought untold miseries to the calamity victims.

We urge the INQUIRER to identify the "Church people," if any, who are involved in the initiative of the Reina Multi-Sectoral Executive Committee. This is a matter of public interest and justice to the faithful and to the Church, whose position as a moral and pro-environmental institution might have been put in doubt by the report.

—DEACON MARIO VAN LOON,
coordinator, Social Action Center,
REV. FR. PETE MONTALLANA,
director, Tribal Center for Development,
Prelature of Infanta

NBI supports campaign against software piracy

PLEASE FIND OUR REJOINDER TO THE letter of Salcedo Ramas who asked whether the National Bureau of Investigation is abetting drug abuse among the young. (PDI, 10/11/05)

On Aug. 16, 2005 the NBI, Optical Media Board, Philippine National Police, Intellectual Property Coalition and the Business Software Alliance launched the Pilipinas Anti-Piracy team in Shangri-la Hotel, Makati City.

The team spearheads the campaign that aims to curb software piracy in the Philippines and reduce the country's software piracy rate of 71 percent in 2004 to a manageable level this year. The campaign was to start after 30 days from the launching. A warning to this effect was disseminated through the media, enjoining users of unregistered or pirated software to comply with the requirements of RA 8293 (Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines).

Thus, on Sept. 16, 2005, the NBI started the crackdown against users of illegitimate software. The NBI strongly denies that it raided Internet cafés in Davao City on Sept. 15, 2005.

The bureau acts based on complaints from members of the BSA, and only in accordance with its mandate as a component of the law enforcement community.

It would do well for Internet café operators and others concerned to abide by the requirements of the law to legitimize their software instead of closing shop.

—NESTOR M. MANTARING,
assistant director,
National Bureau of Investigation,
Manila

Serving God by serving others

I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE ADDITIONAL information regarding Fr. Efren Borromeo, whom Gil Francis Arevalo wrote about in the articles titled "The healing touch of Fr. Momoy" (PDI, 3/21/05) and "Priest preaches 'bio-dynamic' farming." (PDI, 9/15/05)

Thanks to Father Momoy, the Fr. John Delaney Hall beside the UP chapel is transformed every Monday into a center for the healing of mind, body and spirit.

The hall comes alive as early as 6:30 in the morning. The patients come from all walks of life. Some arrive in wheelchairs. Others walk in slow, measured steps using canes. Cancer patients are given top priority.

The healing session starts at exactly 8:30 when everyone is enjoined to do the Shibasi—exercises that are based on oriental healing concepts to regulate breathing, build up strength and flexibility of muscles, accelerate blood circulation, relieve stress, etc. The pain and discomfort of moving arthritic knees and aching joints, the thought of cancer cells lurking in the colon, breast, liver, ovaries, lungs, prostate, bones, etc. are temporarily forgotten. Every wave of the hand, every pull of a muscle, every bend of the knee is offered to God as we await His healing energy to flow within us.

A 10-15 minute meditation precedes the celebration of the Holy Mass which is the focus of the healing process.

Every now and then, the healing effects of virgin coconut oil are discussed. Many patients have attested to its positive, almost miraculous results.

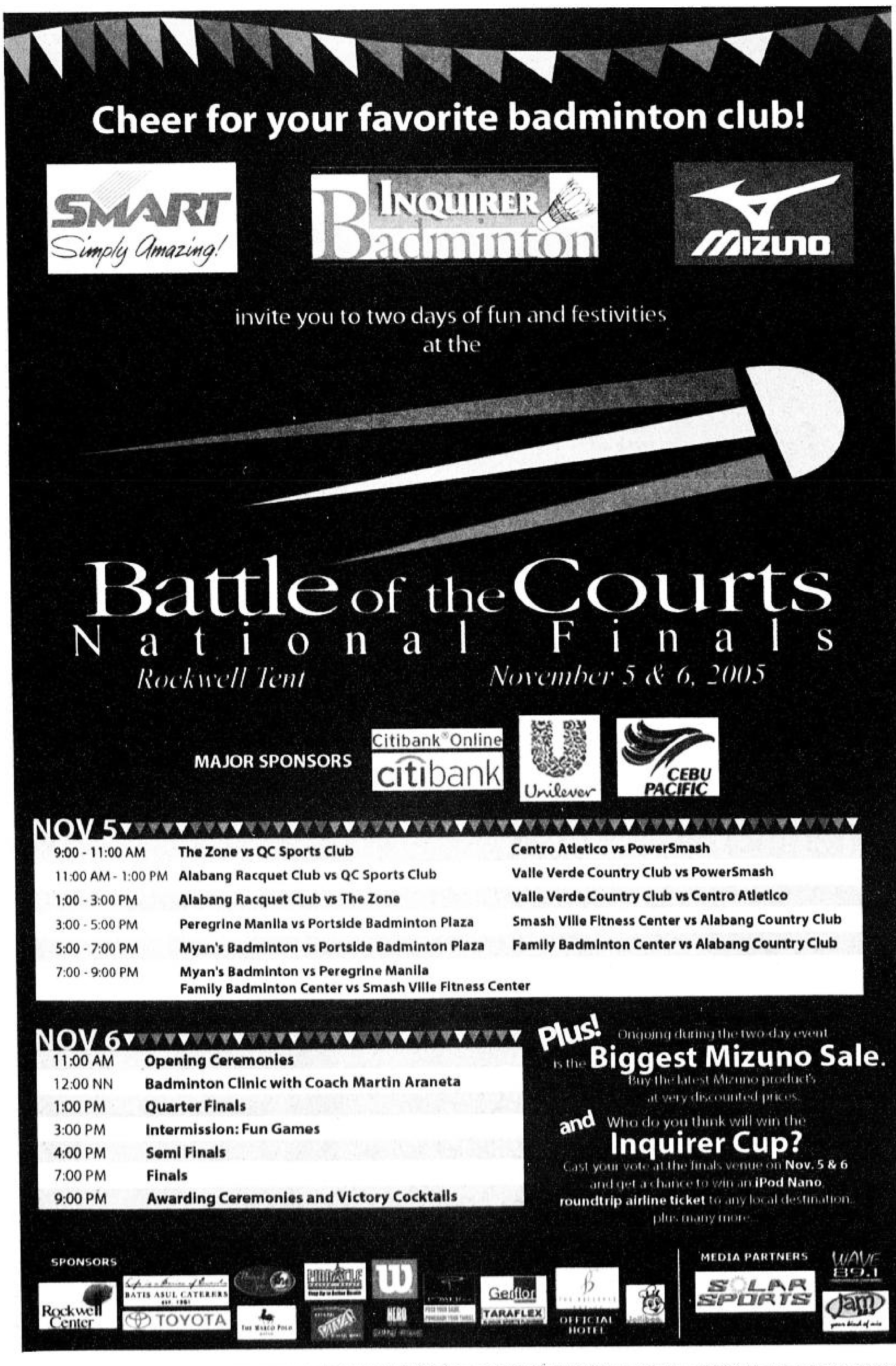
My husband and I are part of this crowd. We have attended the sessions since May.

I have witnessed Father Momoy doing "diagnostic healing." With his right palm, he scans the patient's body. He discovers a small growth underneath a rib cage. He is elated when he "sees" that a tumor has shrunk to half its original size. He notices that what was once a reddish-brown nodule has turned paler. He fixes his gaze on you, probes, measures. He lays his hand on the affected part, closes his eyes, prays and blesses you.

Father Momoy attributes his gift of healing to an incident in his life several years back. While driving along a highway a stone was hurled at his car, shattering its front windshield and hitting his right eye. He felt warm blood gush forth and an excruciating pain in his eye. As he lost consciousness, a certain calm settled upon him, giving him a feeling of floating into nothingness with an all-powerful but loving presence engulfing him. Immersed in this healing, purifying light, he felt an indescribable joy and prayed thus: "Lord if it is your will, take me now, if not, please take over."

The missionary work being undertaken by this healing priest has not only given hope but rekindled the faith of countless people who are in pain and continually seeking for a cure for their infirmities. Still, Father Momoy looks back to all of this as God's way of taking over his life so he can serve Him by serving others.

—VILMA REGIDOR TAROY,
33 Viceroy St.,
East Fairview, Quezon City



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NOV 5

9:00 - 11:00 AM	The Zone vs QC Sports Club	Centro Atletico vs PowerSmash
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Alabang Racquet Club vs QC Sports Club	Valle Verde Country Club vs PowerSmash
1:00 - 3:00 PM	Alabang Racquet Club vs The Zone	Valle Verde Country Club vs Centro Atletico
3:00 - 5:00 PM	Peregrine Manila vs Portside Badminton Plaza	Smash Ville Fitness Center vs Alabang Country Club
5:00 - 7:00 PM	Myan's Badminton vs Portside Badminton Plaza	Family Badminton Center vs Alabang Country Club
7:00 - 9:00 PM	Myan's Badminton vs Peregrine Manila Family Badminton Center vs Smash Ville Fitness Center	

NOV 6

11:00 AM	Opening Ceremonies
12:00 NN	Badminton Clinic with Coach Martin Araneta
1:00 PM	Quarter Finals
3:00 PM	Intermission: Fun Games
4:00 PM	Semi Finals
7:00 PM	Finals
9:00 PM	Awarding Ceremonies and Victory Cocktails

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When Morato became QC mayor

I ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS the clarification of what Manuel Morato called the "confusion" on the date of the appointment of Tomas Morato as first mayor of Quezon City. (PDI, Letters, 11/3/05)

There is no problem with regard to the date of Tomas Morato's appointment being Oct. 12, 1939, as shown in the document in the possession of Morato, which is also the date the city charter was signed. In my essay (PDI, 10/5/05), I wrote: "President Quezon himself assumed the functions corresponding to the mayor, from Oct. 12 to Nov. 4, 1939, but without the formal appointment of a mayor..." presumably because Tomas Morato was still unable to sit officially as Quezon City mayor. It was not until Nov. 4, 1939, that he assumed the position due to the fact that he "had to hurriedly wind up his official affairs" elsewhere.

The confusion was over the date. So before Nov. 4, Quezon was "officer in charge" (as referred to by Manuel Quezon III), or "caretaker" (as indicated by Manuel Morato) of the newly created charter city. The first mayor of Quezon City was indeed Tomas Morato.

—BERNARDITA REYES CHURCHILL,
Diliman, Quezon City

Press freedom should be respected

THE UNDERSIGNED FACULTY members of the University of the Philippines College of Mass Communication (UP CMC) strongly denounce the military and police for the harassment of a photojournalist on the night of Oct. 2

Rene Dilan, a photographer of the Manila Times, was taking photographs of the damage (caused by bombing) to the Globe office on Lapaz-Santa Rosa Road, Barangay Maliwalo in Tarlac City when he was confronted by around 20 troopers of the Philippine Army and the Philippine National Police.

Since he was quick to arrive at the scene, the police officers and soldiers accused him of being in connivance with the New People's Army, which was suspected to be the perpetrator. To make matters worse, he was prevented from taking photographs of the damaged sections of the Globe office and the memory card of his digital camera was confiscated. He was also detained at the Tarlac PNP headquarters from 12:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. on Oct. 3.

In our interview with Dilan, he said that on his way to the Tarlac PNP headquarters, he was treated like a criminal. His Toyota Revo was flanked by two mobile patrol cars and he was made to sit beside a police officer armed with an M-16 rifle.

The action of the military and police was clearly a direct assault on the freedom of the press. It shows utter ignorance of the workings of the journalism profession. Such red-baiting tactics also reflect the military's and police's perception that journalists, particularly those critical of government policies and programs, are part of what they call a "grand conspiracy" to destabilize the government.

Dilan, who has been working for 10 years as a photojournalist for the Manila Times, Sun Star News Service, Sun Star Manila, RP Daily Expos and other publications, was merely doing his job, and the military and police had absolutely no right to prevent him from covering the event.

We call on the military and the police to respect the freedom of the press and to allow journalists to freely practice their profession. To prevent incidents like this from happening again, the government should conduct an impartial investigation of the case and compel those responsible to issue a public apology to Dilan and the Manila Times at the earliest possible time. Otherwise, the suspicion will grow that the government does not value press freedom.

—DANILO A. ARAO,
chair, Department of Journalism,
with 13 faculty members of the
University of the Philippines
College of Mass Communication,
Diliman, Quezon City

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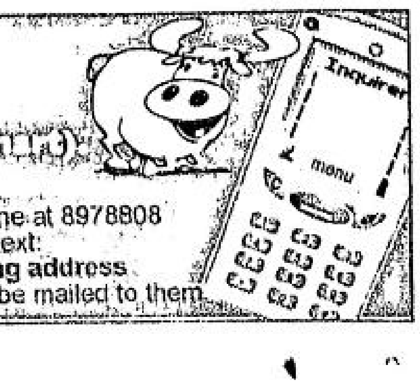

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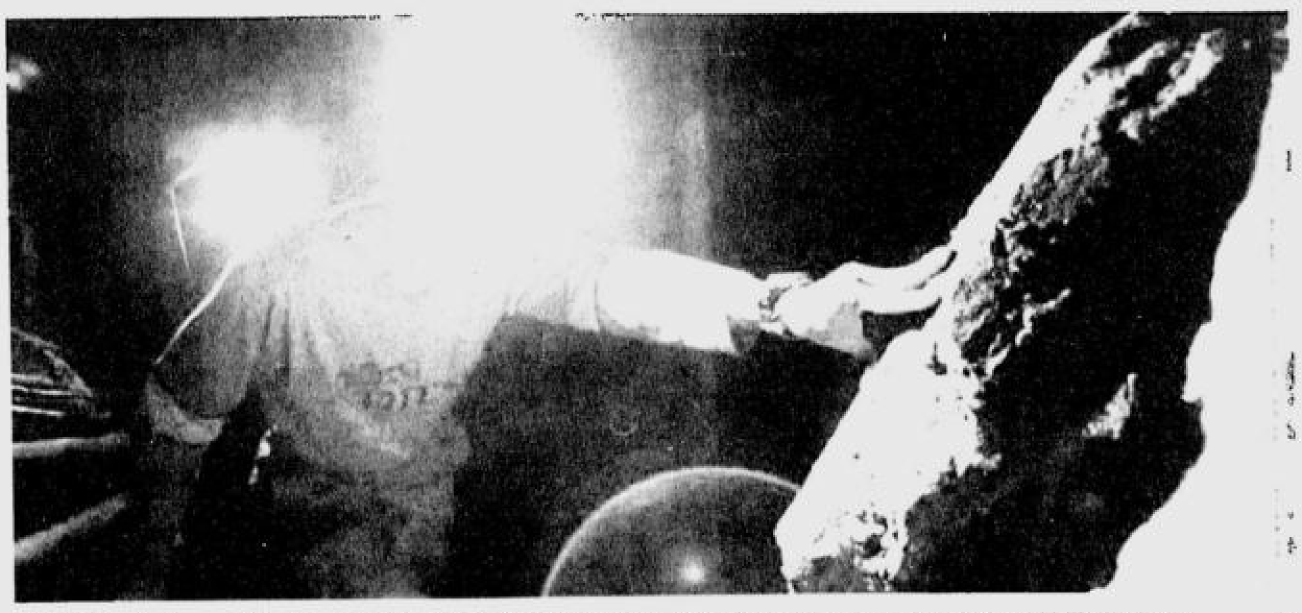
Up to 100 more miners feared trapped in tunnel



A MINER checks another tunnel Oct. 28 in Mt. Diwata after a tragic accident in another tunnel killed miners. AP

DAVAO CITY—BETWEEN 50 TO 100 MORE MEN ARE BELIEVED trapped in a tunnel that caved in and killed dozens of miners on Mt. Diwata in Compostela Valley, according to officials at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

A top DENR official, who asked not to be identified until the final death toll has been released, said reports from the mining site indicate that as many as 100 miners were in the Sunshine tunnel when an explosion caused a cave-in.

The official said many other miners who were trapped in the tunnel were believed not accounted for in the JBMMC or government tally.

Six more bodies have been found yesterday, but the Office of Civil Defense said it has not given up hope survivors could still be found.

Reynaldo Española, vice president and spokesperson of JBMMC, said there appears to be more victims than what was previously reported.

"We came out with a new list." Española said, adding that there are 31 miners in the company's list who died in the cave-in.

Out of the 31 dead, 16 had been positively identified, while the bodies of 15 others are still inside the tunnel, Española said.

The JB management, however, has given up hopes of finding survivors.

"Officially, we have 31 dead," he said. "Let's not talk of survivors here."

Española said he was confused with the initial list of dead and trapped miners following the company's investigation of the cave-in.

"I was wondering why they (dead victims) are not in the list of trapped victims," he said.

Edgar Salanio, OCD spokesperson, said the OCD would come up with a new figure on the number of deaths when the search is over.

"It's not yet a fixed figure and we are expecting more (casualties)," he said. *Norman Bordadora, in Manila, and Dennis Jay Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Veggie farmers make a killing as prices soar

LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET—THE PROVINCE'S vegetable farmers made a killing during the holiday break as vegetable prices soared at the trading post.

Prices of eight commonly traded vegetables increased from P5 to P10 per kilogram with celery as the biggest gainer and potatoes, surprisingly, as the biggest loser.

Celery, which normally costs from P7 to P12 a kilogram, went as high as P55 per kg, but potatoes went down to P14 from P18 a kg.

But agriculture officials said the gains are temporary as a glut in production is expected in the coming days.

They said, however, that farmers expect the prices to stabilize at a "marketable level" as they would like to preempt the chain effect of the implementation of the expanded Value Added Tax (VAT) law on the costs of farm inputs.

The price increase was also felt in Manila, prompting Vice President Noli de Castro to ask the Department of Agriculture on Wednesday to explain the surge in the cost of vegetables coming from the province.

"I told him that the price increase was expected because many farmers concentrated on the production of cutflowers for the holidays," said Patricio Ananayo, chief of the DA's agribusiness and marketing assistance division.

The farmers scrambled for a big and sure market for flowers during the week leading to Nov. 1 and vegetable trading found a healthy competition, he said.

He said the volume of vegetables to flood the market in the coming days, though, will show the effect of VAT on the local vegetable industry, even if vegetables are VAT exempt.

He said prices during the holiday rush reflected a volatile market that was expected to reel from expected increases in fertilizer and pesticide costs and the yet to be increased toll at the North Luzon Expressway (NLEx).

"We should not also forget that the cost of trucking services also drains much of the resources of farmers who have to transport their produce from their farms to the La Trinidad vegetable trading post here," he said. *Delmar Cariño, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Jun Bandayrel**
Bureau Chief **Edralyn L. Benedicto**

GODOFREDO Maray, executive director of the LRAP, inspects the coconut wine in the winery in Barangay Sampaguita, Dagami, Leyte.

VEN LABRO

Turning coco water into wine in Leyte

By Vicente S. Labro
Dagami, Leyte

THE TURNING OF COCONUT water into wine in Leyte is far from being a miracle similar to the Bible's account of how Jesus turned ordinary water into wine during a wedding feast in Galilee.

The local brew tastes like imported red wine with a tinge of wild honey, tropical fruits and the popular native wine, "bahalina" or aged tuba made of coconut sap.

"Don Alfonso," the brand name of the coconut wine, became an instant hit to locals and foreigners in the past and is making a comeback after its brief affair with fame in 1997-1998.

It disappeared from the market when its maker ran out of bottles, and cash.

This time, the Australian government, through the Philippine-Australian Community Assistance Program (Pacap) of the Australian Agency of International Development (AusAid), has provided the Leyte Rural Advancement Program (LRAP), manufacturer of Don Alfonso, a grant of P740,000 that revived the winery project.

LRAP is a nongovernment organization helping local farmers. Its program includes organizing education, training, socioeconomic projects, and enterprise development.

Godofredo Maray, LRAP executive director, said the NGO buys coconut water and bottles from farmers, some of whom are also hired in the bottling and labeling of the product.

He said the Pacap money was used for the purchase of new bottles and wine testing instruments and training of workers and for plant operation.

Coco water to wine

Maray said the technology used for the coconut red wine came from his younger brother Benito, a Bachelor in Science Physics graduate, who experimented on the idea of producing wine from coconut water in 1994.

"After about two years he came up with a prototype of the wine and had it analyzed at the Institute of Food Science and Technology in UP (University of the Philippines) Los Baños," he said, "(and) the result was very good because its characteristic falls under class 'A' world standard for wine."

When his brother told him of his experimentation and offered his findings to the LRAP, Maray said the NGO immediately accepted it for they "saw this as a potential additional income for farmers."

"Don Alfonso red coco wine is made from coconut water by adding coconut toddy as fermentation agent. For flavor, bouquet and aroma, ripe wild banana, wild honey and grape puree are added. The color is imparted by 'tungog' or mangrove bark," Maray said.

The wine, it was learned, got its name from the Maray brothers' grandfather.

The LRAP set up the laboratory in Barangay Sampaguita in Dagami, Leyte and after the wine was tested at UP Los Baños, they tried marketing the product. The initial result was that some liked its good taste but others preferred the original "bahalina." In 1998, however, the coco red wine had a chance to be promoted in a wider area.

"This wine caught the attention of former Leyte Gov. Remedios Petilla who liked the taste and packaging. She encouraged us to introduce it to the national market. Petilla, as a way of helping us in the promotion, used it as a gift for visiting dignitaries," Maray said.

Aside from the red wine, the NGO was also producing coconut vodka that was made out of distilled coconut water.

In 1998 they were invited to join the Eastern Visayas-sponsored Bahandi Trade Fair held in Metro Manila, and as part of their marketing promotion they let customers taste the product.

The wine business provided livelihood not only to male farmers but also to a group of farmers' wives belonging to the Cansiboy multi-purpose cooperative based in Burauen, Leyte, who supply the abaca bags and casing for bottled wine.

Maray, however, said the NGO was then just breaking even.

Bottle shortage

Everything was going on smoothly until the group ran short of bottles when its source, a used-bottle buyer, had stopped supplying them. They could not buy from bottling companies because these only sell in big volumes and the LRAP did not have the capital.

Maray said production slowed down and the group was unable to meet the orders of customers. Eventually, the winery had to close shop.

When the group learned that Pacap is financing livelihood projects, it submitted a proposal to the funding agency. After about a year of negotiations, Pacap released the grant last February.

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Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

Edsa repair work winds up Monday

By Tarra V. Quismundo

MOTORISTS AND COMMUTERS may expect to see the normal volume of traffic on Edsa next week, as repairs on the major thoroughfare are expected to be completed this weekend.

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) said sectional concrete reblocking on parts of Edsa should be over in two days, based on the work schedule of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). "We are trying our best to do substantial sectional reblocking on Edsa by Monday," said MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando, who has supervisory powers over the DPWH National Capital Region office that has been doing the repair work.

Repaving of portions of Edsa on both southbound and northbound sides began Friday evening, the start of the long break. Rehabilitation work between Gil Puyat and Kalaayan Avenues caused traffic to move at snail's pace from Kalayaan to the Ayala tunnel the entire week.

Repairs also closed down the outermost northbound lanes of Edsa from Shaw Boulevard to SM Megamall. On the southbound side, repairs were also done past the Metro Rail Transit Guadalupe station to the front of the Loyola Memorial Chapels.

Irate motorists had called up the MMDA during the week to complain about the bottlenecks. Agency officials explained that the sectional reblocking was in fact scheduled during the holidays when there was less traffic on Edsa.

"We hope the public bears with us and understand that we really need these repairs, and that we had to take advantage of the long holidays to get the job done," said MMDA Deputy Chair Cesar Lacuna.

57 hurt in Navotas dawn fire; 300 houses razed

By Nancy C. Carvajal

FIFTY-SEVEN PEOPLE WERE hurt as a fire destroyed some 300 houses in Navotas at dawn yesterday.

Fire Marshal Insp. Edgardo Antonio reported that the fire started at around 3:30 a.m. and was put under control at 5:49 a.m.

The cause of the fire that affected houses on Bacog St. in Barangay Daang Hari was still undetermined, but there were indications it could have been set off by an unattended lighted candle.

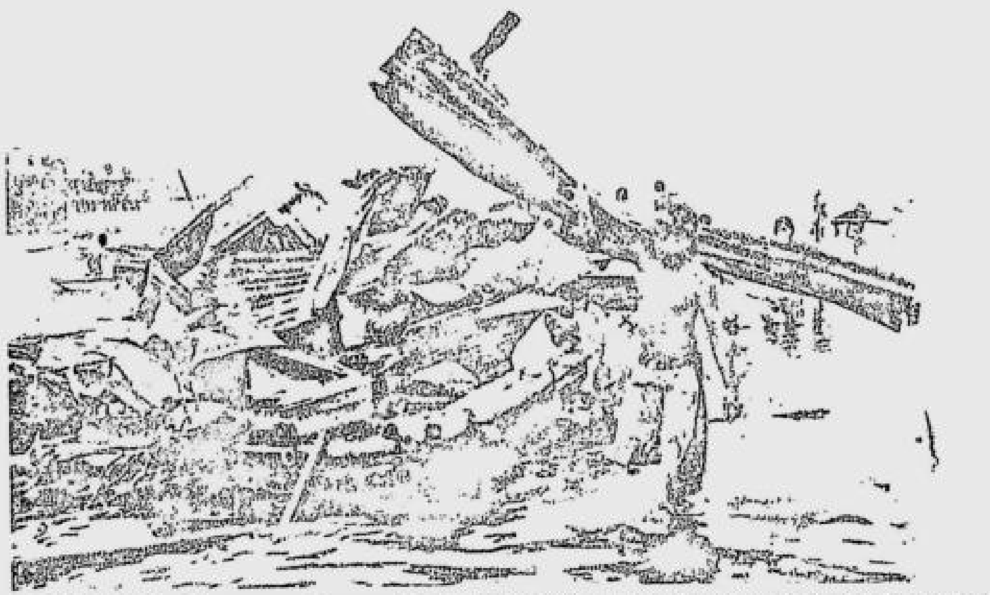
"*Walang kuryente sa lugar na ito. Baka kandila na naman ang dahilan* (There are no electricity connections here; a candle could have caused the fire)," the fire marshal said.

Most of the injured were men who suffered deep cuts on their heads and soles, said William Santos of the Kalinga Volunteer Group which gave first aid to the victims. Crispin Abenara had a deep cut on his head from a piece of burning wood that fell on him as he tried to save his belongings.

Santos said some women and children bruised their arms as they fled the fire scene. Maryanne Bondoc said her family lost everything in the blaze.

The Bangkulasi Elementary School had been turned into an evacuation center for the victims.

Penny Corpus, a teacher at Bangkulasi and a Red Cross volunteer, said they would provide assistance to the victims.



RESIDENTS of Barangay Daang Hari retrieve tin sheets they could still use to build new homes.

JOAN BONDOC

Pasig market front quiet

ALL WAS QUIET AT A PASIG CITY PUBLIC market which was the scene of a violent tug-of-war the other day between wreckers sent by its owner and vendors claiming rights over the property. Fenced in by iron sheets, about 20 armed watchmen guarded the market entrance when INQUIRER paid a visit to the site yesterday. Inside, a few vendors stood by to make sure their stalls would not be dismantled. Only those with a gate pass could enter.

The pass was proof the vendors were complainants in a pending case over rights to the property at Barangay Palatiw also being claimed by the family of former Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap.

"The demolition will proceed. Legitimate vendors will be let in after the demolition," said Ma. Asuncion Cabrera, counsel for the DHY Realty and Development, owner of the property.

Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

Julius Babao, a terrorist?

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

I ACCEPT PRESS SECRETARY Ignacio Bunye's apology on his statement that my conversation with President Macapagal-Arroyo on ABS-CBN broadcaster Julius Babao was "off the record."

I admire Bunye for being man enough to admit his mistake. Apologizing for a mistake takes a lot of courage.

Likewise, I apologize for calling him "*gago*" on television in reaction to his off-the-record statement. I was driven to do that to protect my integrity as a journalist. If I didn't challenge Bunye's statement, my sources would no longer trust me with valuable information needed for my work as a columnist.

* * *

Since that Julius Babao controversy came out in the INQUIRER last Sunday, a lot of denials and recriminations has taken place.

ABS-CBN said it would investigate Babao who had gone on an indefinite leave of absence until the termination of the probe. But even before it could end its investigation, ABS-CBN demanded a public apology from the President and the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (ISAFP) for "maligning the reputation" of Babao for "insisting" he had put up bail for a suspected terrorist.

The nerve of this network! Just because it is the country's biggest radio-TV news network doesn't mean its anchors, reporters or broadcasters are infallible.

Yesterday, I received a taped statement from Dawud Santos who said that Babao indeed helped him gain freedom. Jonathan Tiongco, a legal researcher who claims Babao approached him to help Dawud, said that the well-known broadcaster didn't post bail for Dawud. However, Tiongco said, Babao used his influence and reputation to act as guarantor for Dawud's bail bond.

Tiongco said he coordinated the collection of money from some people—including a Muslim congressman—for Dawud's bail. A premium in the amount of P28,000 cash—10 percent of the P280,000 bail set for Dawud's temporary liberty—was put up for the terrorist suspect's release. At first, Summit Surety and Insurance Corp. would not accept the bail premium, Tiongco said, because "Muslims were notorious for jumping bail." That's when Babao came into the picture. He acted as guarantor for Dawud's bail. If you ask me, posting a bail and acting as guarantor for the temporary liberty of an accused amount to the same thing.

Babao had no business as a journalist to act as a guarantor for the bail that set Dawud free. He should be objective in covering a controversial case. In other words, a reporter doesn't take sides in a controversial story.

But Tiongco said that Babao had a personal motive for helping Dawud gain his freedom. Babao, he said, was a friend of Akhmad Santos, Dawud's brother and the leader of the Rajah Solaiman Movement (RSM). The RSM, according to military intelligence, was allied with the notorious Abu Sayyaf and international terrorist group Jemaah Islamiyah.

The RSM was allegedly responsible for the Valentine Day bombings in Metro Manila and other parts of the country and that of the SuperFerry attack that killed many passengers and caused it to sink. Akhmad reportedly sought Babao's help in obtaining his brother's freedom. Dawud is reportedly the second in command of the RSM.

Akhmad was recently captured by the military in Mindanao. At the time Babao was helping Dawud, Akhmad was still not captured, according to Tiongco.

People or countries that harbor, sympathize or help terrorists are also considered terrorists, to paraphrase US President George W. Bush. So, since Babao helped a terrorist, he should also be considered a terrorist.

NBI arrests 8 more Jaylo men

By Tina G. Santos

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI) raided yesterday the office of the defunct Presidential Anti-Illegal Recruitment Task Force (PAIRTF) in Malate, Manila, and arrested eight more operatives.

Eight alleged illegal recruiters detained at the office were also "rescued." Arrested at the PNB Building, in the Rizal Memorial Compound on Adriatico Street, were Antonio Aviermo Jr., Gerardo Quigol, Redante Cortez, Noy Jaylo, Fernando Jardin Jr., Edgar Ignacio, Abelardo de Jesus and Ernesto Nicomedes.

Earlier, NBI Special Task Force chief Regional Director Reynaldo Esmeralda said they were preparing charges of extortion against 10 other "intelligence officers." Charges had also been filed against 11 PAIRTF agents.

The former PAIRTF head and now director of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, former Capt. Reynaldo Jaylo, earlier charged with unauthorized hiring of intelligence officers, was also being investigated for qualified bribery and robbery extortion.

On orders of Department of Justice senior state prosecutor Emmanuel Velasco, the raid, led by the Special Action Unit under Assistant Regional Director Vicente de Guzman, was meant to verify complaints about sub-human conditions of detainees.

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METROBRIEFS

Pampered seniors

SENIOR citizens are a pampered lot in Muntinlupa City. Soon, the city's Office of the Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA) would be providing its 20,000 senior citizens with purchase booklets entitling them to a five percent discount on all grocery items, except fresh goods. The office has also been paying visits to bedridden and handicapped senior citizens with grocery items and fruits. Some 4,000 purchase booklets have already been distributed to the elderly with specifications based on requirements set by the Department of Trade and Industry , said Maricel Dacuycuy, OSCA head. "This is to see to it that all of them get equal services and attention from the government," she said. The list of elderly patients regularly visited by the OSCA was recommended by barangay officials in coordination with the Federation of Senior Citizens Association of the Philippines. "A regular monthly allowance is also given to senior citizens who have no one to depend on," she said. Apart from the mandated 20 percent discount privilege for medical bills, the government-owned hospital also pays for 70 percent of incurred bills. However, the privilege depends on the paying capacity of the patient, Dacuycuy stressed.

Jocelyn R. Uy

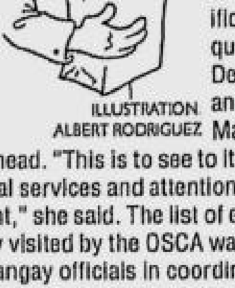

ILLUSTRATION ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Four against one

WHILE police were busy guarding cemeteries on Nov. 1, four men believed to be security guards gunned down a suspect said to be responsible for a series of robbery incidents in the Malabon Public Market. Police identified the victim as Edwin Sagaya,23 of 147 Gov. Pascual St., Navotas. A police report said the four unidentified suspects "arrested" and mauled the victim while he was walking inside the public market at around 3:30 p.m. on All Saints' Day. The suspects then brought Sagaya to the market rooftop and simultaneously fired at him. " We are still investigating the case and gathering details on allegations against the victim who died in the incident," said PO3 Benedicto Zafra.

Nancy C. Carvajal

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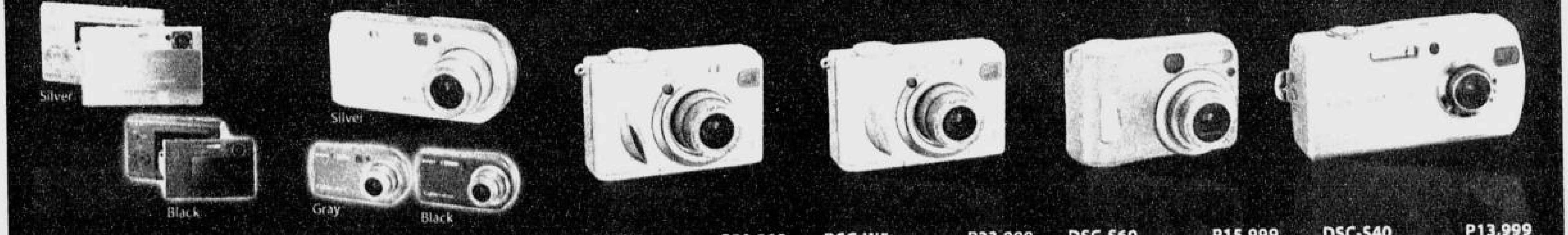

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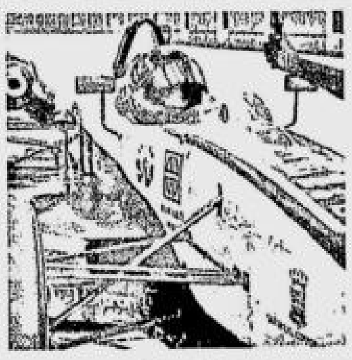

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La Salle team honcho quits

School 'seriously considering' taking UAAP leave of absence

By Beth Celis

"IT IS WITH GREAT PAIN THAT I HAVE TO INFORM LA SALLE that I am resigning effective immediately. I am the acknowledged head of the basketball team, and for that reason alone, I assume and accept full responsibility for the situation we are in today."

MANAGERS' TEARS: Terry Capistrano (left) embraces Mac Cardona after the Green Archers' 2004 championship run. PDI PHOTO

La Salle Green Archers manager Terry Capistrano made this admission and announcement as he formally resigned his position, a move made Wednesday but was made public yesterday.

His letter of resignation, dated Nov. 2, was submitted to Br. Armin Luistro, FSC, president of De la Salle University, last Thursday.

.. Coming on the heels of Capistrano's exit was a report that La Salle was "seriously considering" filing a voluntary leave of absence from the UAAP for the rest of this season and the whole of the next in order "to institute internal reforms."

In a letter addressed to the La Salle academic community, executive vice president Dr. Carmelita Quebengco said school officials will institute "appropriate measures" to put a closure to the eligibility scandal involving two Archers.

In his letter, Capistrano thanked the academe for giving him the opportunity to serve for six seasons, from 2000 to 2005.

"I hope this move will help La Salle to move on," he told the INQUIRER over the phone yesterday before boarding his plane for London.

"I'm just sad that I'm leaving amidst this scenario," he added. "I love this team, I love my school, for whom I've expended resources—and I'm not only talking financial—to create goodwill and a good image. I feel sad for everybody, most of all for our fiercely loyal fans who were always there to cheer, inspire and support us."

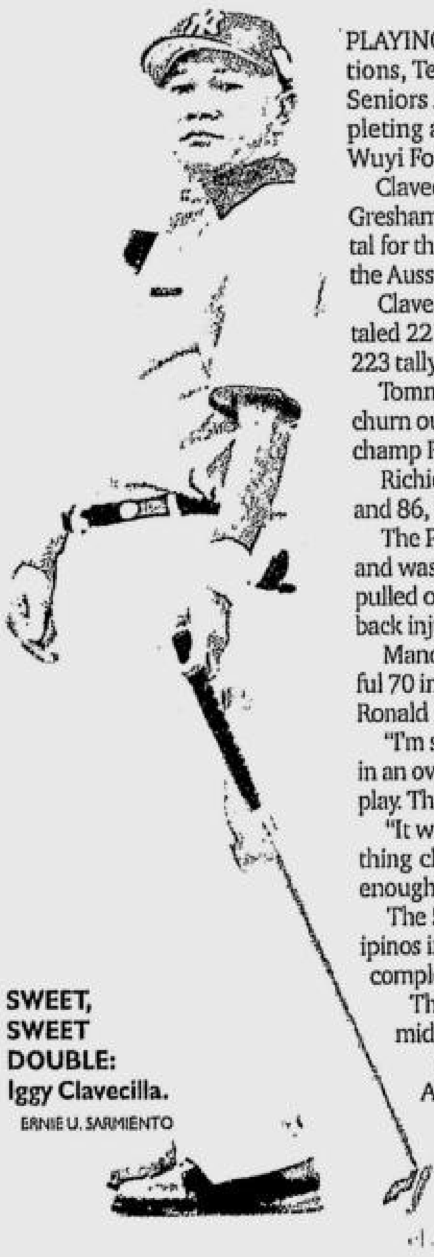
Capistrano, president of TMS Ship Agencies Inc., an international shipping firm he owns, was in Manila for the All Saints' Day break.

He was out of the country when the eligibility issue escalated into a huge controversy, he said.

In the statement issued by Quebengco yesterday, she said La Salle officials have "not wa-

LA SALLE/ A20

Clavecilla seizes indv'l title as Pinoys triumph



SWEET, SWEET DOUBLE: Iggy Clavecilla. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

PLAYING WITH STEADY RESOLVE UNDER TOUGH CONDITIONS, Team Philippines ran away with the 15th Asia Pacific Seniors Amateur crown yesterday—with Iggy Clavecilla completing a sweet sweep with a romp in individual play—at the Wuyi Fountain Palm layout in Jiangmen, China.

Clavecilla shot a 1-over-par 73 to nip overnight leader Tony Gresham of Australia by two and boost the Philippines to a 301 total for the day and 899 after 54 holes for an 18-stroke victory over the Aussies.

Clavecilla, who started the day one down on the Australian, totaled 221, and Gresham shot a 76 after a 70 on Thursday for a 223 tally.

Tommy Manotoc overcame back pains in his last five holes to churn out a 74, while Francis Gaston and reigning RP Senior champ Rolly Viray submitted 77s to round out Philippine scoring.

Richie Garcia and Caloy Coscoluella did not count with an 80 and 86, respectively.

The Philippines went into the round leading by just six shots and was in no way assured of the title, especially after Manotoc pulled out after just five holes on Thursday because of a recurring back injury.

Manotoc, though, felt fit enough to play yesterday. His masterful 70 in the first round put him just a shot off New Zealand's Ronald Baltrop in individual play.

"I'm so happy, it was worth the pain," Manotoc told the INQUIRER in an overseas call. "There was something in me that told me to play. The conditions were brutal and the course played tough."

"It was not a day for low scoring today, so we thought that anything close enough to par would be a good score and would be enough to win it."

The 56-year-old spearhead started the ball rolling for the Filipinos in an earlier flight, and Clavecilla, the jolly journeyman, completed the hatchet job in the scorching heat.

The greens were sun-baked to incredible speeds and the humidity made it tough for the field.

Garcia failed to count for the first time in three days and Australia never really gained ground.

"They did not come close," Garcia, a Philippine Sports Commissioner, said. "We gave it our all."

Gaston, the 1979 RP Am champion who missed this tournament last year because of a shoulder injury, was leveled after nine holes.

Musong R. Castillo

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Far Eastern Insurance	0	1

GAMES TODAY
(*JCSGO Gym*)
2 p.m.—Granny Goose vs Toyota Otis
4 p.m.—Rain or Shine vs Magnolia Ice Cream
6 p.m.—Montaña vs Hapee

Magnolia loads up for big match

AS THOUGH THE OFFENSIVE MUSCLE PROVIDED by Arwind Santos and Fil-Am Kelly Williams was not strong enough, the Magnolia Wizards have pushed new recruit Kim Valenzuela into their artillery.

The depth of the Wizards' offense will be put to the test when they face resilient Rain or Shine Elasto Painters as both teams gun for a second straight win at 4 p.m. today in the PBL Heroes Cup at the JCSGO Gym.

Hapee-PCU also shoots for a 2-0 slate when it faces Montaña Pawnshop at 6 p.m., while Granny Goose and Toyota Otis try to recover from opening-game losses when they kick off the heavy three-game bill at 2 p.m.

Valenzuela, who rode the Barangay Ginebra bench in the PBA for one season, was near-perfect in the Wizards' convincing 79-70 win over Granny Goose last Saturday.

The 5-foot-8 point guard finished with 17 points, registering a 6-of-7 shooting from the field, including 3-of-3 from the three-point area.

"Kim just stepped up," said Magnolia coach Koy Banal. "The energy the players poured into the game was also tremendous."

While the Wizards visibly cruised in their first game, Rain or Shine needed an end-game push from Jojo Tangkay and Ronjay Enrile for an 81-75 triumph over Toyota Otis.

The Elasto Painters trailed by double digits most of the way before Tangkay and Enrile teamed up in the final seven minutes of play.

Hapee-PCU is another team that may have found a surprise contributor. Guard Mark Moreno came out big in his first game for a team that usually relies on the formidable duo of Gabby Espinas and Jason Castro.

Moreno, a West Negros College standout, debuted with 14 points on top of four assists and seven steals.

Montaña, meanwhile, opened its campaign with a surprising 68-60 loss against a young Harbour Centre squad Thursday.

Alex Compton tried to avert the loss by sparking a rally in the closing minutes, but the Jewels clearly felt the absence of former Most Valuable Player Jon Dan Salvador, who has climbed to the pros. *Jasmine W. Payo*

Air21 shocks Talk 'N Text with putback

By June Navarro

GAME TODAY (*Tacloban City*)
4:30 p.m.—Red Bull Barako vs Coca-Cola
GAMES TOMORROW (*Araneta Coliseum*)
4:10 p.m.—Barangay Ginebra vs Air21
6:40 p.m.—Talk N Text vs Alaska

SHAWN DANIELS SCORED ON A PUTBACK with 2.4 seconds left to carry Air21 to a pulsating 90-88 win over Talk 'N Text last night in the San Mig Coffee-PBA Fiesta Conference at the Ynares Center in Antipolo City.

Cornered by Asi Taulava down low, Daniels rifled the ball over to Wynne Arboleda on the side then delivered the game-winner off a John Ferriols miss as the Express finally put one over the Phone Pals in seven meetings.

"We can brag about this," said Air21 coach Bo Perasol after the Express recovered from a humiliating defeat dealt by Talk 'N Text during their initial outing.

Daniels' heroics paved the way for Air21 to notch its third in seven games and saved the Express from another potential overtime cliffhanger.

Perasol and the Express recently dropped a pair of double-overtime thrillers against the Alaska Aces and the San Miguel Beermen.

Meanwhile, Red Bull's Mick Pennisi escaped suspension but was slapped a P10,000 fine by the league for triggering the near-brawl that erupted during the Alaska-Red Bull game Wednesday night.

Pennisi sent Don Allado to the floor, setting in motion a skirmish that saw Allado slapping Enrico Villanueva and Celino Cruz of Red Bull hitting the Alaska power forward in retaliation.

Allado and Cruz were penalized P20,000 each on top of a one-game suspension for figuring in the altercation.

Renren Ritualo led Air21's balanced scoring with 17 points while Daniels finished with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

Willie Miller's shotclock-beating three-pointer allowed the Phone Pals to take a 85-82 lead inside three minutes. Perasol questioned the shot and was slapped with a technical foul, making matters worse for the Express.

But Ronald Tubid came up with six straight points, including a three-point play against Miller, that erased the deficit.

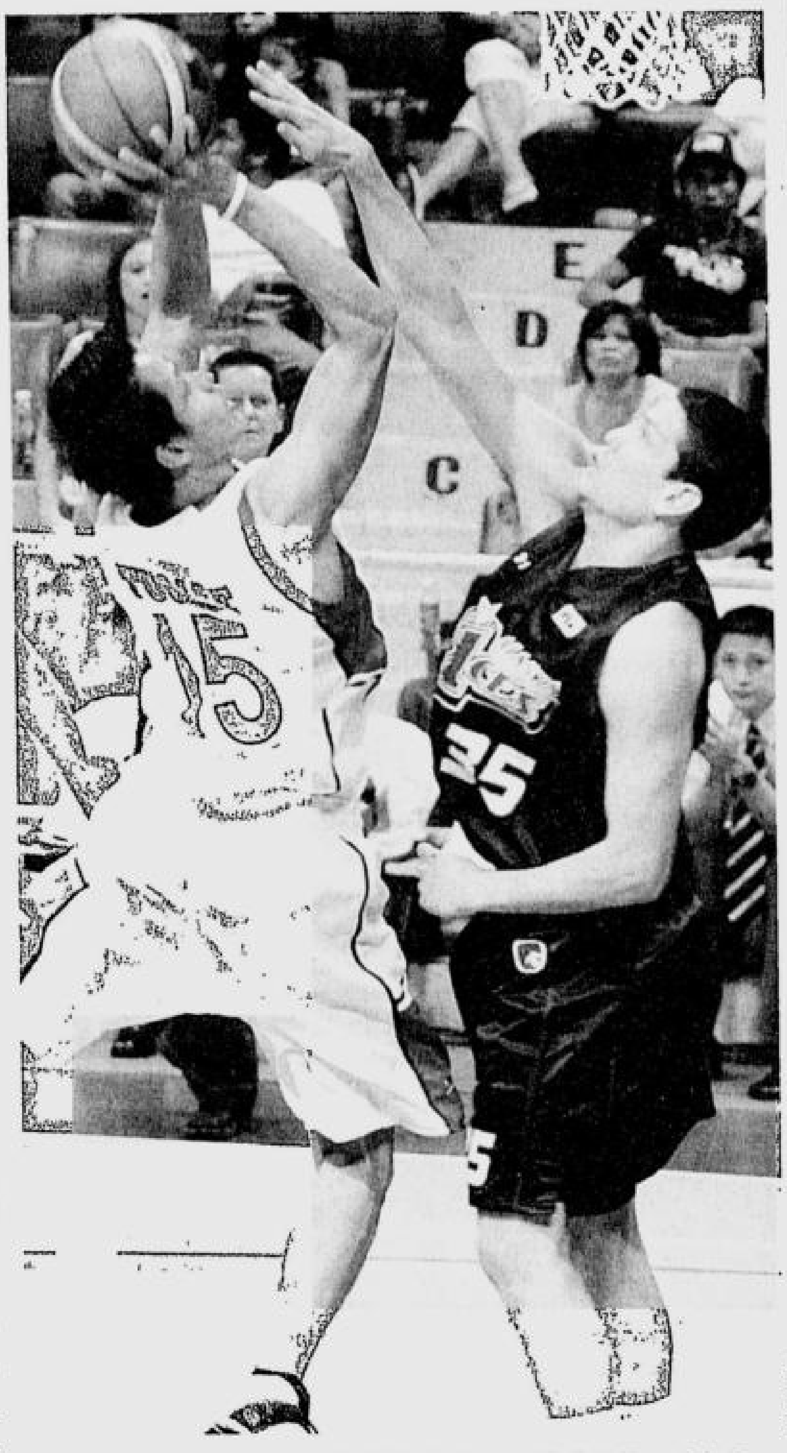
The scores:

First Game

AIR21 90—Ritualo 17, Daniels 14, De Ocampo 11, Arboldea 11, Ferriols 10, Tubid 8, Gonzales 6, Se 6, Canaleta 5, Fran 2, Dacla 0

TALK 'N TEXT 88—Cantrell 26, Taulava 22, Pablo 9, Miller 8, Carey 7, Alapag 6, Gelig 4, Telan 4, Cardona 2, Washington 0, Avenido 0

Quarters: 26-20, 54-47, 71-67, 90-88



RYAN LIM

RED BULL guard Lordy Tugade (left) challenges Alaska's Tony dela Cruz in their game Wednesday night. The Aces defeated the Barako, 81-64.

How 'the mess' trapped La Salle team manager

IN HUDDLE

Beth Celis

IT'S QUITE UNLIKELY for the quiet, very private, generous and extremely likeable La Salle Green Archers team manager Terry Capistrano to be dragged into a controversy.

Ironically, that's where he found himself when the name of his wife Gina appeared in the papers as one of the incorporators of AMG Sports International, a talent management outfit headed by Los Angeles-based player agent Mike Gonzalez.

According to Terry, it was in August 2000, his first year as Green Archers team manager, when he was approached by Mike proposing that they put up a company "to help aspiring athletes."

"At that time, we were focused only on golf and tennis. The idea was to help promising athletes technically and financially so that they could have the proper training to excel in their sport. At that time, we had our eye on Dorothy Delasin because we read somewhere that she needed help to be able to compete in various international golf tournaments," Terry explained.

The group never got to Dorothy, because months after the company was formed—January 2001, to be exact—Gina and former DLSU assistant team manager Manny Salgado divested themselves of their share.

* * *

"Inevitably *kasi, napasama ang* basketball *sa* list of sports. When it came to this point, I became uncomfortable, being team manager of the Green Archers," said Terry who has been holding the position for six years, during which he has earned three UAAP championships.

Terry was in London when the matter of AMG Sports International broke into the news.

He was very upset, because the formation of the company came out in a bad light, and not as what he had envisioned it to be.

Revenue was farthest from his mind, he said. In fact, he wanted to fund the needy athletes. In fact, Mike Gonzalez admitted that Terry had put up the initial capital of the company, which he later left to him (Mike) when wife Gina divested. Mike also said that Terry spends an average of P4 million a year on the Green Archers.

* * *

"The divestment papers are with me, in case anybody's interested to look them over," said Terry who is president of TMS Ship Agencies Inc., a company he owns.

Not too many people know that Terry was a rugby player in La Salle Hong Kong where the Capistrano family was based many years ago. He was, in fact, a member of the 16-under rugby national team.

He admits, though, that his number one passion is track and field, where he excelled in college at La Salle Taft.

So where does basketball come in? I asked Terry.

"That, my friend, is my elixir of life. The excitement, the adrenalin rush I get from it is incomparable," he said.

* * *

Seems like I've opened a can of worms. Since I wrote those items on Ateneo's Japeth Aguilar and Michael Galinato, who's now playing for San Beda in the NCAA, I've been getting leads on other collegiate cagers whose college eligibility is also questionable.

This email in particular, sent by the former team manager of a UAAP squad, caught my attention:

"At that time, I was contemplating on having this superstar cager, who turned out to be an MVP later, investigated, because there was no record of his high school diploma," he related. "Apparently, the school of this cager must've gotten wind of my plan because they beat me to the draw. To my surprise, they suddenly presented a high school diploma issued by an obscure school in Central Luzon."

* * *

No wonder, Air21 cager Ronald Tubid's face didn't have a tinge of resemblance to the San Lorenzo Ruiz statue at the Philam Homes park in Quezon City.

Tubid did not model for San Lorenzo but for Blessed Pedro Palungsod's portrait which was sent to Pope John Paul for beatification in 2000.

"Palungsod is next in line to San Lorenzo as second Filipino saint," explained PBA operations director Rickie Santos, a devout Catholic.

IBC-13 newscaster Dennis Principe, who also called my attention about the mistaken identity, said Blessed Pedro was an altar boy who was killed by his father who didn't want his child baptized into a Catholic.

"This happened in Guam years ago. I recall that he and the priest were accused of poisoning the children. *Nadamay lang siya* because he didn't want to leave the priest behind. They were both killed," said Dennis.

"The priest who was killed alongside Pedro is Jesuit missionary Diego San Vitorres. He was beatified much earlier than Pedro."

Tubid was called "D'Saint" when he was still playing in the PBL.

Laurente nails Paba super bantam crown

PEDERITO LAURENTE OF THE Philippines stopped Korean Pal Man in the second round to win the regular Pan-Asian Boxing Association (Paba) super bantamweight at the ongoing 84th WBA annual convention in Seoul, South Korea.

The Iloilo-raised Laurente, fighting out of the Bebot Elorde Stable, was too strong for his foe as he hurt the Korean with a variety of shots before knocking him down twice late in the opening round.

Laurente pressed even harder, pinning Shim through the ropes with a swarm of blows before referee Chalerm Prayadsad of Thailand stopped the fight after 22 seconds of the second round.

In the main event, Japan-trained Venezuelan Jorge "El Niño de Oro" Linares, managed by Akihiko Honda of Teiken Promotions, stopped Denchai Sor Tiebkoon of Thailand in the opening round.

The 20-year-old Linares, dubbed a younger version of Oscar De la Hoya, improved to 18-0, 11 KOs.

In his previous fight in Yokohama, Linares decisioned Filipino Ayon Naranjo who later landed in the hospital after complaining of dizziness and severe head ache.

Naranjo is now back in the Philippines, well and fully-recovered. *Salven L. Lagumbay, contributor*

La Salle team honcho quits

From page A19

vered" in their search "for truth."

She said the university has already taken initial steps for reform including "changes in admission policies" particularly with the "submission of hand-carried documents."

La Salle recently announced that players Mark Lester Benitez and Timoteo Gatchalian III submitted fake equivalency test results to gain eligibility to the school and to the varsity team.

Having no high school diploma to show, Benitez and Gatchalian took Philippine Educational Placement Test (PEPT), which is a test taken mostly by out-of-school youths to get into college. The two Archers' PEPT certificate submitted to La Salle turned out to be fake.

In the letter, Quebengco also addressed the calls of some sectors who "would like more 'heads to roll.'" She stressed that the investigation has not been closed and school officials are "more than willing to accept the evidence of wrong-doing of any party—including the coaching staff as some sectors have implied."

Based on the probe of La Salle's fact-finding committee, the university tagged assistant team manager Manny Salgado and contractual statistician Raul Lacson as the team officials who helped secure the players' fake documents.

Although it seemed the case hit a dead-end after Salgado and Lacson denied the allegations, Quebengco noted that several actions have already been taken to pursue the case.

Among the actions are the formation of a committee to recommend changes in the university's "sports policy and personnel, including the coaching staff." *With a report from Jasmine W. Payo*

200 riders set out today in Cycling Search last leg

THE ILOCOS SUR PROVINCIAL capital of Vigan comes to life today when close to 200 riders scramble for honors in the final leg of the Cycling Search Invitational series here.

Some of the country's top cyclists will be in Vigan to determine the overall team and individual champions of the four-leg circuit backed by San Mig Light, Pagcor-Casino Filipino, TCL-Sun and Partas Transport.

They were part of a huge caravan that motored over to Vigan yesterday, giving themselves time to rest before the gruelling grind around a 3.2-kilometer circuit through the main streets of the heritage-rich city.

On hand to welcome the CSI entourage were Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson and Ronald Singson. The bikefest is also backed by PCSO, Aktivade, Arnette, Jollibee Vigan and Hidden Spring Mineral Water.

Vigan Mayor Ferdie Medina is expected to flag off the riders in front of the provincial capitol today.

SWIMSUITS ON CAMPUS: Members of the College of St. Benilde team conduct a beach volleyball demo-clinic at First Asia Institute of Technology and Humanities (Faith) in Tanauan City recently for volleyball players and coaches of different schools in Batangas. First Asia Institute is strengthening its sports and other student development programs. "At First Asia Institute, our motto is *Mens Sana in Corpore Sano* (A healthy mind in a healthy body). That's why we are now actively promoting our sports and athletics programs," said Faith president Saturnino Belen Jr.

Pacquiao endorses two RP title fights tonight

By Salven L. Lagumbay, *Contributor*

TWO PHILIPPINE TITLE BELTS WILL BE put on the line tonight in the twin main events of the "Fight for Love" card at the New San Andres Sports and Civic Auditorium in Manila.

The stellar card, aimed at raising funds for former world champion Luisito Espinosa's legal battle to collect an unpaid purse, has the full backing of Filipino icon Manny Pacquiao, who has donated a good amount for this cause.

North Cotabato Gov. Emmanuel Piñol, who is putting up the show together with close friends, said during yesterday's weigh-in that fight fans will get more than their money's worth considering the quality of the matchups.

Headlining the show is the titular defense of RP lightweight king Fernando Montilla, who risks his crown for the third time against Camiguin-raised fighter Dexter "Dinamita" Delada, ranked No. 2 among the country's 135-pounders.

The co-feature will showcase RP superfly king Eric Barcelona who battles veteran Celso Danggod in another 12-rounder.

Montilla came in at 134 lbs while the lanky and much-taller Delada tipped the scales at 133 lbs yesterday. Both Barcelona and Danggod came in at 114 lbs.

The Delada-Montilla tiff, as well as the other bouts, will be aired over at NBN-4 starting at 9:15 tonight.

Spicing up the show are explosive bouts pitting Mercito Gesta of Cebu against Rey Llagas (superfly, 8 rds); Edrin Dapudong versus Rommel Bongon (strawweight, 8 rds); Dennis Juntillano against Robert Rubillar (light flyweight, 8 rds); Rex Peñalosa versus Albert Alcoy (light flyweight, 8 rds); Tommy Terado against Danny Llanasa (strawweight, 8 rds).

Que, 3 other RP bets stay in the hunt

RAYONG, THAILAND—ANGELO QUE FIRED a 3-under-par 70 Friday, towing three other Filipinos in the money chase of the inaugural $300,000 Double A International Open here.

Counting his first round 69, Que posted a 7-under 139 total, five shots off Indian pacesetter Shiv Kapur (68-134) and three strokes up on compatriot Gerald Rosales (70-142).

Filipinos Cookie La'O and Jerome Delariarte also made the cut with a 74 and 75, respectively, at the St. Andrews Hill (2000) Golf Club. La'O was at 144 while Delariarte barely survived at 147.

The lone Filipino casualty was Danny Zarate, who scored a 73 for a 3-over 149.

Continuing his steady play, Que birdied six holes, including the monstrous par six 878-yard No. 4, against bogeys on Nos. 5, 9 and 11 to share fifth place with Australia's Jason Davies (71). New Zealand's Kenny Walker was also at seven under but was unable to play his last three holes due to darkness.

Rosales, on the other, rebounded from a front nine 38 with a backside 32, highlighted by four straight birdies from the 12th.

Thailand's Thammanoon Srirot carded a 68 to trail Kapur, the 2002 Asian Games gold medalist, by three shots at 137 and move ahead of compatriot Thongchai Jaidee (71) and Scotland's Simon Yates (68), both at 138.

ASIAN F3 DUEL

Sy quicker than Indon in practice

AMONG Tyson Sy's plans is to "avoid doing stupid things" during the race.

DRIVING UNDER OVERCAST SKIES, TYSON SY LOGGED TWO OF THE FASTEST times in three practice runs so far, raising hopes he is in tip-top shape for the qualifying session tomorrow that will determine the grid positions for round 11 of the Asian Formula Three Grand Prix at the Batangas Racing Circuit.

Using old tires like the rest of the pack, Sy clocked 1:27.625 minutes and 1:27.394 in the first two practice runs Thursday at the 3.4-kilometer BRC track. Yesterday, he timed 1:29.747 as he geared up for the battle for the top grid position today with chief rivals Ananda Mikola of Indonesia, the series leader, and third-running James Winslow of Great Britain.

"My car is fine," said Sy, 18, the lead driver of Speedtech Asia who is bidding for another golden double in the last two rounds of the nation-hopping series. "We are still fine-tuning our setup and hopefully it will become better tomorrow."

Mikola, of Fastron Racing with Threebond, clocked 1.29.895 in the first practice run yesterday after doing 1:27.975 and 1:45.969 Thursday but was hardly awed by Sy's show of force.

"I am here to finish the race and make the fans and my sponsors happy," said the Indon ace, who leads the series with 127 points. "I will avoid doing stupid things [during the actual race]."

The last two races, sponsored by Addict Mobile, PLDT myDSL, Boysen Paints, Yokohama Tires and Lima Hotel, will be seen live on Studio 23, with the first race set at 10:30 a.m. and the second race from 2:30 p.m. to 4 o'clock. Racing enthusiasts can log on to www.asian3.net and www.mypad.net for regular updates.

Sy is running second with 101 points and not even a sweep of rounds 11 and 12—worth a combined 40 points—will assure him of the crown. For the Filipino young gun to foil Mikola, the Indon must not finish higher than fifth in both races.

Winslow, driving for Shell Helix Kinetic PCSO, is running third with 100 points and is very much in the running. Like Sy, however, his only chance to win the crown is for Mikola and the Filipino ace not to figure in the top five of both races.

Another young Pinoy hope, Dado Peña, 18, of Team Goddard-Minardi Team Asia, clocked 1:29.506 yesterday after doing 1:28.682 and 1:29.136 last Thursday.

"The weather is hot and the track seems to be having more grip, which is slowing my car," said Peña, who is running fifth with 75 points, four behind John O'Hara of Shell Helix Kinetic PCSO.

Pint-sized dynamo born to play big-time

By Musong R. Castillo

THE AMUSED MOTHER SWEARS SHE NEEDS A rope—thick one—to tie down her 16-year-old daughter Sam.

"There's not a time that she wants to stay put in the house," Mama Pinky said. "Sam is always on the move, always wanting to train and sweat it out."

Sam is Samantha Camille Nierras—the second youngest member of the Philippine women's football team. And it's definitely an ordeal trying to tie down a person whose athletic interests spread out through different fields.

The football team's starting right fullback for the coming 23rd Southeast Asian Games is also a blackbelt in taekwondo and a blue-chip point guard with La Salle-Zobel's high school WNCAA squad.

"Football is closest to my heart," Sam said to explain why she did not try out for a berth in the more glamorous sport of basketball or a spot in the RP taekwondo team.

"I feel like I was born to play football, though I enjoy the other sports as well," Sam added.

Sam was born in Fremond, California and holds two passports. She was raised in California and returned to the country in 1999.

Her love affair with football started when she was eight years old. The city police department in Milpitas, where her family stays, sponsored kiddie soccer tournaments then. There, Sam played against bigger and heftier foes.

The 4-foot-11 Sam had always been outsized in the field, but she never hesitated in giving the sport a shot, even if she was also taking taekwondo lessons and was already shooting hoops in public courts. To her credit, she made the national football team easily.

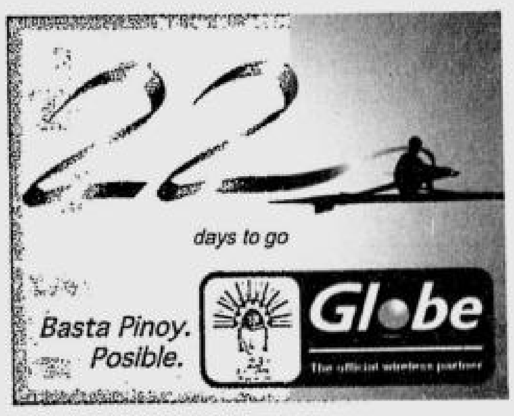
Her involvement with the RP squad prompted father Ernie to become one of the team's managers, not only to show full support to his daughter, but help the team in other aspects as well.

Sam, a consistent member of the DLS-Z's honor roll, idolizes thick-thighed Real Madrid fullback Roberto Carlos and spends a lot of time copying the moves of the superstar of Spain's La Liga.

"I see him (Carlos) as the complete football player," said Sam who, like the rest of the RP squad, has been quartered for the last two weeks at the La Salle grounds in Dasmariñas—away from family and friends—to train for the SEAG.

"It's a sacrifice we players all have to make," she said. "But the camaraderie in the team is so good that we see each other as family now. We want to be competitive in the SEAG and if doing this would help, then we have no problem."

Her stint with the Philippine football team will not end after the coming SEAG. Sam wants to be a part of the first-ever RP women's squad to get invited to the Asian Games, hopefully, by next year in Qatar.



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Del Rosario overcomes odds, claims 2nd place

THE PHILIPPINES' PAUL DEL Rosario overcame tremendous odds to post an impressive first runner-up finish in the 2005 World Jet Ski Championship in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, recently.

The 26-year-old Del Rosario finished a strong third in both hydrocross races to claim second place overall in the Expert Runabout 1200 Open class that was topped by Thailand's back-to-back world champion Theewart Larhib.

Del Rosario, a two-time champion in the local Petron National Jet Ski Series, created quite a stir aboard his Yamaha ski in the tough 35-rider international field that also included 2003 Expert Limited world champion Eric Francis, Expert 800cc world titleholder Jamey Cheney and former US champion Billy Deerman.

Drawing the No. 7 position for the qualifying round, Del Rosario endured the choppy waters and grabbed the holeshot to finish first, 30 seconds ahead of Cheney.

The Filipino seized the lead using a short-hulled boat that looked inferior in such conditions to the long and narrow Kawasaki STX-Rs of Cheney and his other main rivals.

The final race saw Del Rosario figuring in a widely-cheered battle with Theewart and Francis down to the last lap. Theewart eventually won the race, with Francis finishing second and Del Rosario just a whisker behind in third place.

PAUL Del Rosario zips to the finish ahead of the pack in the qualifying race. He eventually bagged three third-place finishes

"Finishing runner-up is already big honor," said Del Rosario. "To get the applause from the crowd was really awesome. I felt so blessed with my performance there."

Francis proved to be the biggest thorn on Del Rosario's side in the first race, though. The Filipino racer, who slipped to fifth after a tactical error at the start of the race, finally managed to move into position to catch Scott Philipps of Australia at second spot when backmarker Francis played the spoiler's role for an entire lap. Del Rosario wound up third in the race won by Theewart.

Canadian Ryan Pearson of Windsor, Ontario, finished third overall, while Jared Moore of South Africa and Cheney settled for fourth and fifth, respectively.

Francis, 14th in the first race, took sixth place overall.

Del Rosario's feat reaffirmed his billing as the best Asian Yamaha rider. All four riders in the event's Top 5 rode Kawasakis.

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1,500 bets expected for 10-mile race

THE COUNTRY'S ONLY PATAFA-SANCTIONED 10-Mile (16K) race will be held tomorrow at the Cultural Center Complex ground in Pasay City with more than 1,500 runners expected to participate.

The 17th edition of the annual footrace will be fired off by top officials of the sponsoring Yakult Phils Inc. at 6 a.m.

Vying for the men's division top awards are veteran marathoners Reynaldo de los Reyes, Bernardo Desamito and brothers Cresenciano and Gerald Sabal.

The distaff side is expected to be ruled by Marychiel Minas. Picked to crowd Minas for the top female award are veteran marathoners Liza Delfin and Luisa Raterta and a group of Baguio City runners headed by Rosario Alberto.

A total of P30,000 in cash and trophies are at stake for the top five winners in the 10-mile race while medals and Yakult gift packs await the top finishers in the 5K fun run and the 3K kiddies run.

All finishers will receive exclusive Yakult running singlets and a bottle of Yakult.

A special trophy also awaits the running group with the most number of entries. So far, the Mariners Club is leading this contest. Registration for the event ends today.

US-based Filipina arrives for ITF tilt

THE SPEARHEAD OF THE NATIONAL WOMen's tennis squad in the Southeast Asian Games is in town to see action in the two-leg Holcim ITF Circuit at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center starting tomorrow.

United States-based Riza Angela Zalameda, who is ranked No. 852 in the world, is seeded No. 6 in the tournament behind Lyoo-Suh Hee Sun of South Korea (697), Rebecca Fong of Britain (708), Lee Jin-a of South Korea (741), Pichittra Thongdach of Thailand (762) and Chen Yi of Chinese Taipei (776).

Zalameda, named 2004 Player of the Year by the Los Angeles Times, was born in the US to Filipino parents Rollie and Angie. She was a quarterfinalist in two $10,000 tournaments in Indianapolis and Baltimore last July. She also reached the doubles semifinals in Alabama, New Mexico and Baltimore.

The University of California Los Angeles standout arrived in the country last Wednesday.

Each leg of the Holcim ITF Circuit offers a total cash purse of $10,000, with the singles champion receiving $1,600 and the runner-up $1,000.

Prizes in the doubles are $650 for the champion and $350 for the losing finalist.

The first leg will begin tomorrow with the singles qualifying round. Sign-in is scheduled from 12 noon to 6 p.m. today at the offices of the Philippine Tennis Association.

ZALAMEDA

Other seeds are Korean Kim Hae-Sung (873), Britons Natasha Khan (902) and Georgie Stoop (904), Taiwanese Chen Lu-Ling (970) and Koreans Bae Hae-Yourn (990) and Lim Sae-Mi (994).

Denise Dy, Czarina Mae Arevalo and Anja Vanessa Peter are the other Filipinos competing in the ITF Grand Slam Development Fund event.

The 16-year-old Dy, whose family migrated to Los Angeles, won one singles and two doubles titles in the ITF Juniors held in Manila last month.

Twenty-year-old Arevalo, singles and doubles champion in the Guam International Open last May, is fresh off a three-month stint at the R. K. Khana Tennis Academy in India.

75 fights up today at LP Coliseum

SEVENTY-FIVE FIGHTS are scheduled today as the cream of the country's cockfighters figure in thrilling one-on-one duels in a special five-stag derby today at the Las Piñas Coliseum. One of the highly awaited showdowns in the event sponsored by Sagupaan Complexor 3000 pits Patrick Antonio, winner of the Big Event 8-stag derby recently, and popular Sweater man Sonny Lagon. Selected members from leading groups like GCAP, NCA and PCAP are invited in this grand event, said derby host Gerry Ramos. Meanwhile, regular hackfights are also scheduled at LPC from Monday to Sunday. For inquiries, call 873-1040 or 874-3910.

2 share PCAP Stagfighter series title

LAWYER HENRY VILlarica and Efren Canlas of Pampanga shared the PCAP Stagfighter of the Year title last week at Makati Coliseum. Villarica's VP Alegria Uma and Canlas' Bacolor Gold tallied 29 points each in nine PCAP derbies. Boy Marzo (BM Bulalayaw Kabu Media) was runner-up with 27.5 points. Meanwhile, the National Cockers Association presents a 7-stag derby on Tuesday and Thursday, with Representatives Ronnie Puno and Butch Pichay and Rey Briones as hosts. The NCA Stagfighter of the Year winner will be known after the Grand Championship 8-stag derby on Nov. 14 and 16. Stags with Balbina and Bakbakan wingbands will be accepted. For inquiries, call 896-3545 or 895-6475.

'Bakbakan' retains big backer

THE ANNUAL BAKBAkan National Stag Derby, the biggest and most prestigious stag derby in the country, has again tapped Thunderbird Power Feeds as a major sponsor for this year's edition. "We are proud to be a part of Bakbakan," stated Thunderbird's Director for Marketing Edwin Mapanao. "Bakbakan has helped the gamefowl breeding industry and the sport of cockfighting and it is just proper for Thunderbird to support the National Federation of Gamefowl Breeders in this endeavor." The derby's last 3-stag elimination is set at the Araneta Coliseum on Nov. 12 and 14.

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THE LEGEND OF ZORRO 1:20 / 4:05 / 6:50 / 9:35
THE FOUR BROTHERS 1:05 / 3:50 / 6:35 / 9:20
WAITING 12:40 / 2:50 / 5:00 / 7:10 / 9:20
THE GHOST INSIDE 12:30 / 2:40 / 4:50 / 7:00 / 9:10
DOMINO 12:50 / 3:40 / 6:30 / 9:20

GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA
THE LEGEND OF ZORRO 12.45 / 3.30 / 6.15 / 9.00
DEUCE BIGALOW 2 1:30 / 3:30 / 5:30 / 7:30 / 9:30
DOOM 1:30 / 4:00 / 6:30 / 9:00
ISPIRITISTA 1:40 / 4:10 / 6:40 / 9:10
THE 40 YR OLD VIRGIN 1:30 / 4:00 / 6:30 / 9:00

ALI MALL CINEMAS
❶ ISPIRITISTA 12:30 / 3:00 / 5:30 / 8:00
❷ THE LEGEND OF ZORRO 12:00 R2 / 2:25 / 5:10 / 7:55
❸ THE FOUR BROTHERS 12 20 / 3 05 / 5 50 / 8 35
❹ THE GHOST INSIDE 12:10 R3 / 1:35 / 3:45 / 5:55 / 8:05
❺ DOMINO 12:00 / 2:50 / 5:40 / 8:30
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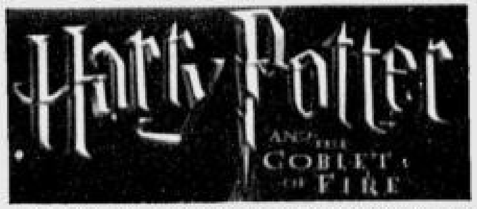
ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS
Nov. 6 Sunday | GINEBRA vs AIR 21 4:10 pm | ALASKA vs TALK N TEXT 6 40 pm
Nov. 9 Wed | SAN MIGUEL vs STA LUCIA 4.40 pm | COCA COLA vs PUREFOODS 7:25 pm

CENTER EVENTS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3 (DOLBY) WAITING R13
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2 (SDDS) SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL
3 (DTS) WAITING
4 GOLD (DTS) 40-YEAR OLD VIRGIN
5 GOLD (DOLBY) FOUR BROTHERS
6 GOLD (SDDS) LEGEND OF ZORRO
7 GOLD (DOLBY) DOMINO
8 GHOST INSIDE
9 ISPIRITISTA
10 MY SASSY GIRL

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3 (DOLBY) LEGEND OF ZORRO
4 DOOM

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(BIÑAN) tel. (049) 4111146
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2 (DOLBY) DOOM
3 (DTS) LEGEND OF ZORRO
4 ISPIRITISTA

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
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2 ISPIRITISTA
3 (DOLBY) LEGEND OF ZORRO

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 LORD OF WAR
2 ISPIRITISTA
3 DOLBY LEGEND OF ZORRO
4 (DTS) DARK WATER

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
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2 ISPIRITISTA
3 (DOLBY) THE TRANSPORTER-2

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Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
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2 ISPIRITISTA
3 GHOST INSIDE
4 DOOM

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Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927
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2 (DOLBY) BLADE OF THE ROSE
3 (DOLBY) ISPIRITISTA
4 (DOLBY) GHOST INSIDE

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
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2 FOUR BROTHERS
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 DOMINO
5 GHOST INSIDE

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2 RESERVED
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5 MASAHISTA

MARRI IMAGE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
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2 ISPIRITISTA
3 LORD OF WAR
4 LAND OF THE DEAD

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 ISPIRITISTA
2 LEGEND OF ZORRO
3 DOMINO

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue
(Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)
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2 ISPIRITISTA

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2 ISPIRITISTA
3 MASAHISTA
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5 (DOLBY) RESERVED
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2 ISPIRITISTA
3 (DTS EX) DOOM
4 CORPSE BRIDE

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 ISPIRITISTA
2 DOOM
3 (DOLBY) LEGEND OF ZORRO
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Cine Nepo
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1 ISPIRITISTA
2 THE DESCENT W/ THE CAVE
3 (DOLBY) LEGEND OF ZORRO
4 INTO THE BLUE

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2 PARAISONG GUBAT
3 (DTS) ISPIRITISTA
4 DOOM
5 ONE MISSED CALL

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1 LORD OF WAR
2 LEGEND OF ZORRO
3 MASAHISTA
4 ISPIRITISTA

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(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 MASAHISTA

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Expanded Poker King tilt gets going

THE FIFTH LEG OF THE POKER KING Challenge which gets going today at Casino Filipino in Tagaytay City has been expanded to enable more poker enthusiasts to vie for the prizes at stake.

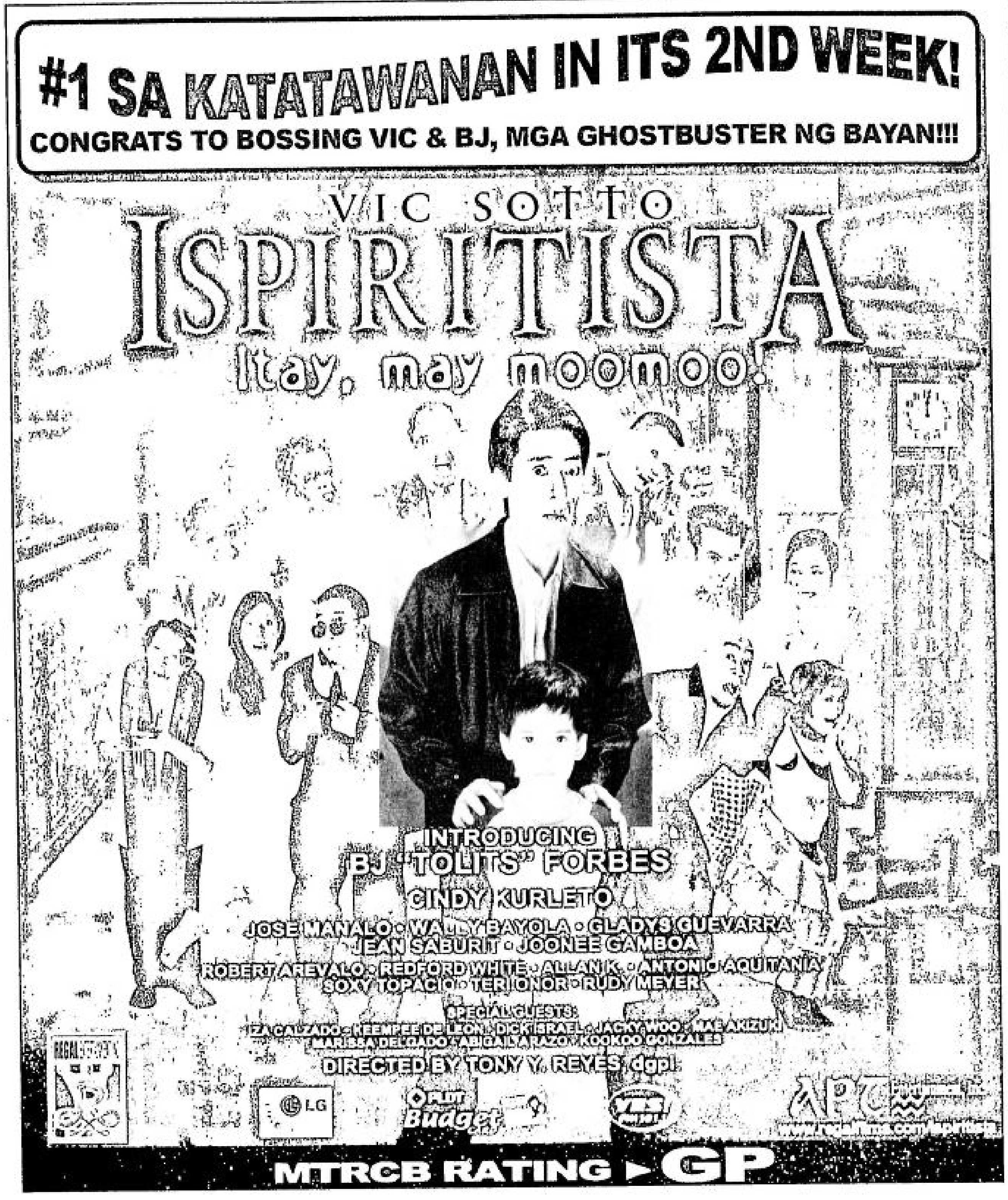
Poker Club of the Philippines president Ray "Butch" Gamboa said that two elimination rounds will be played, with the first group starting to play at 10 a.m. and the second group playing from 1 p.m. up to 3 p.m.

Prize certificates with a total cash value of about P60,000 await the leg champion, in addition to trophies and gift items from sponsors PCP, Philippine Gaming Corp., Jack Daniels, Miller Genuine Draft Beer, Bicycle Playing Cards/Star Paper, Hyatt Hotel and Casino, Ralph's Wine, and MyReviewerOnline, the Internet knowledge-builder.

Gamboa said the leg's top three winners will join other previous leg winners in the Grand Finals to be held later this year.

The previous champions are Jessie Dy of Cebu City, Nicolo Palo of Angeles City, and Manila's Perry Calalang and Mon Gelvezon.

For inquiries, call the Secratariat at 817-9092 or visit www. PokerClubofthePhilippines.com for details.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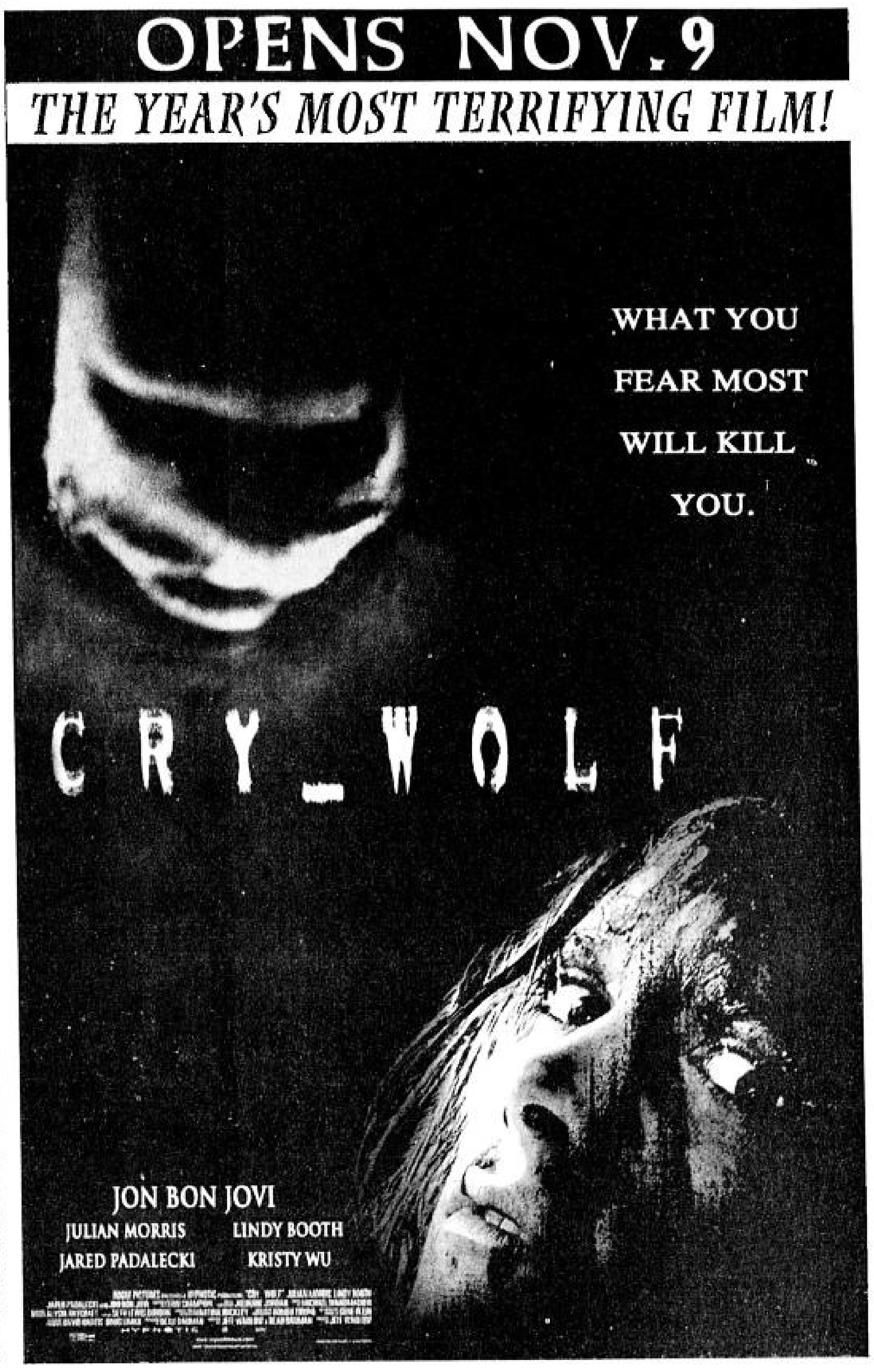
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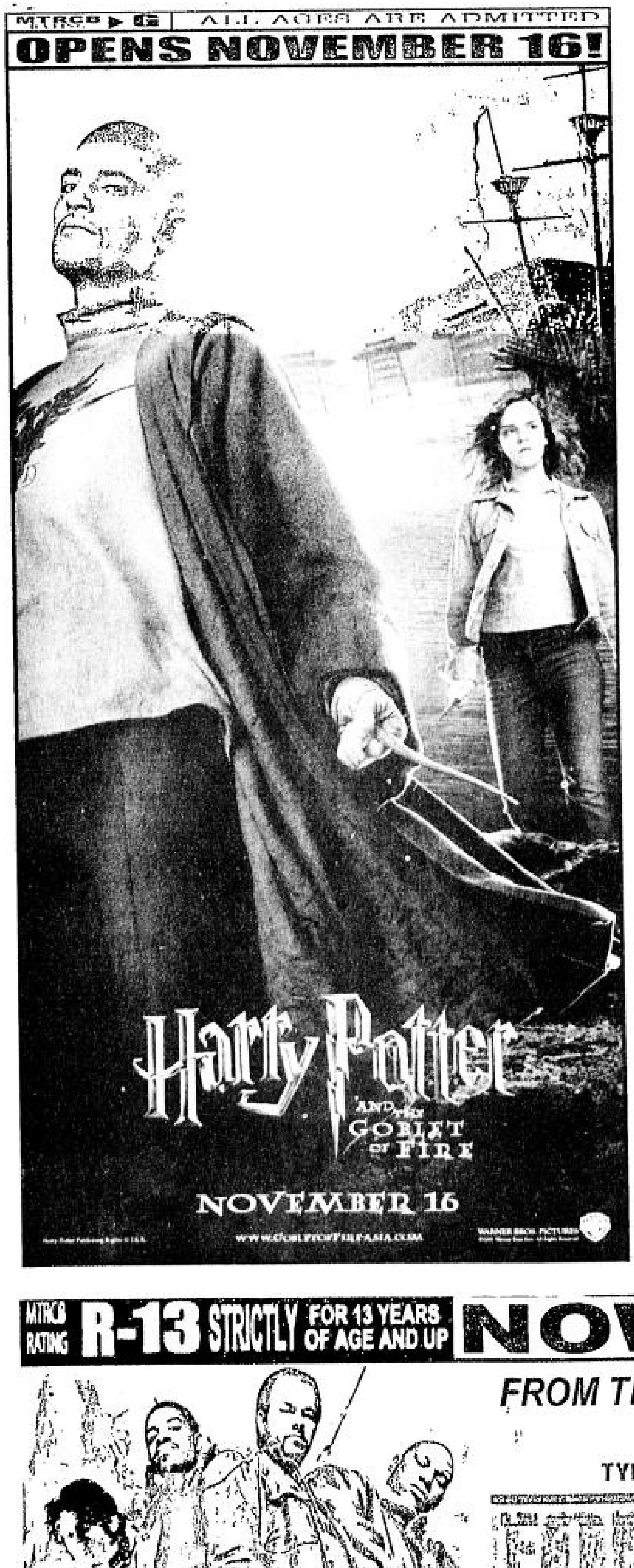
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12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00
R-13
2 THE LEGEND OF ZORRO
11:40, 2:30, 5:20, 8:10, 11:00
GP
3 DOMINO
11:40, 2:25, 5:10, 7:55, 10:40
R-13
4 WAITING
1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00
R-13

SHANG CINEPLEX
① FOUR BROTHERS
11 20 2 00 4 40 7 20 10 00
MTRCB R-13
② THE LEGEND OF ZORRO
11 10 1 55 4 40 7 25 10 10
MTRCB GP
③ WAITING
12 40 3 00 5 20 7 40, 10 00
MTRCB R-13
④ DOMINO
12 55 3 40 6 25 9:10
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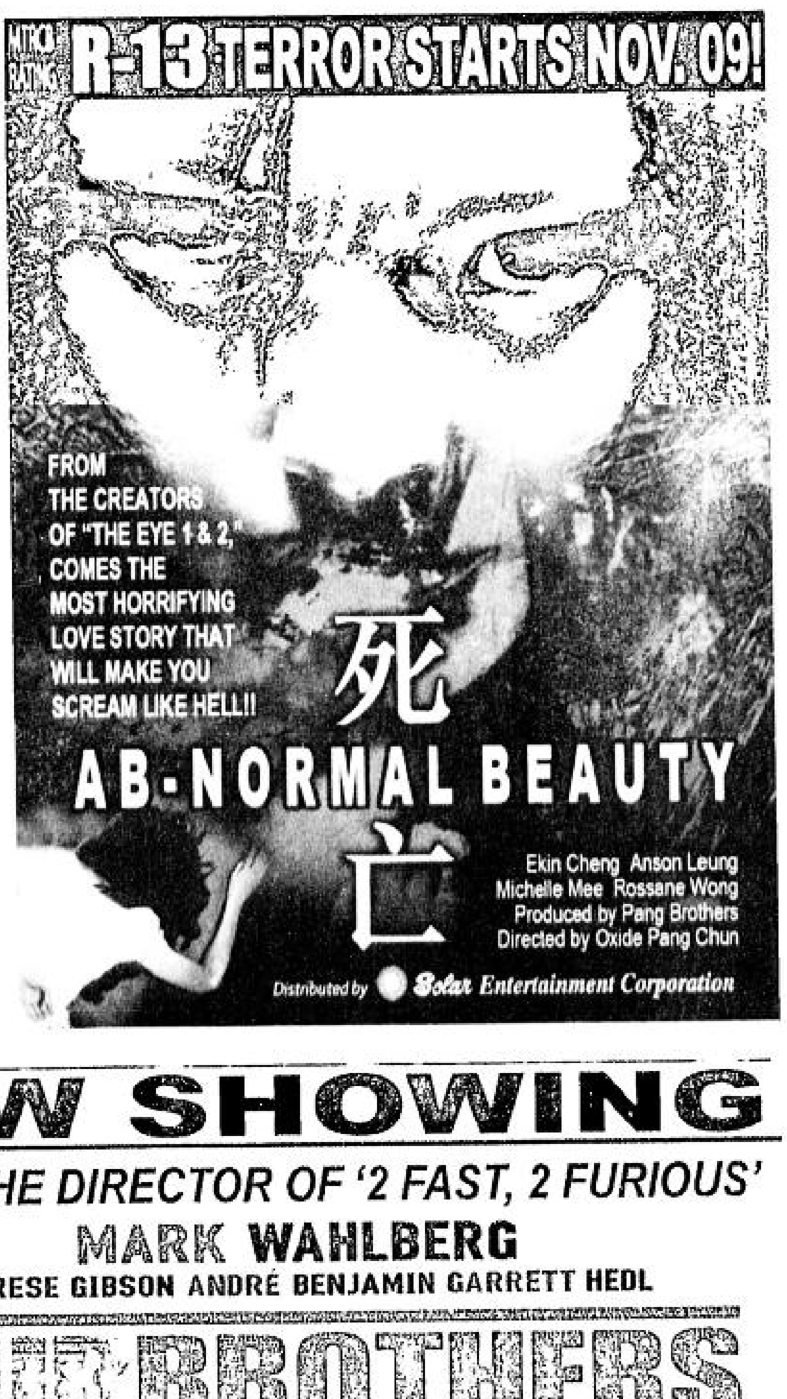
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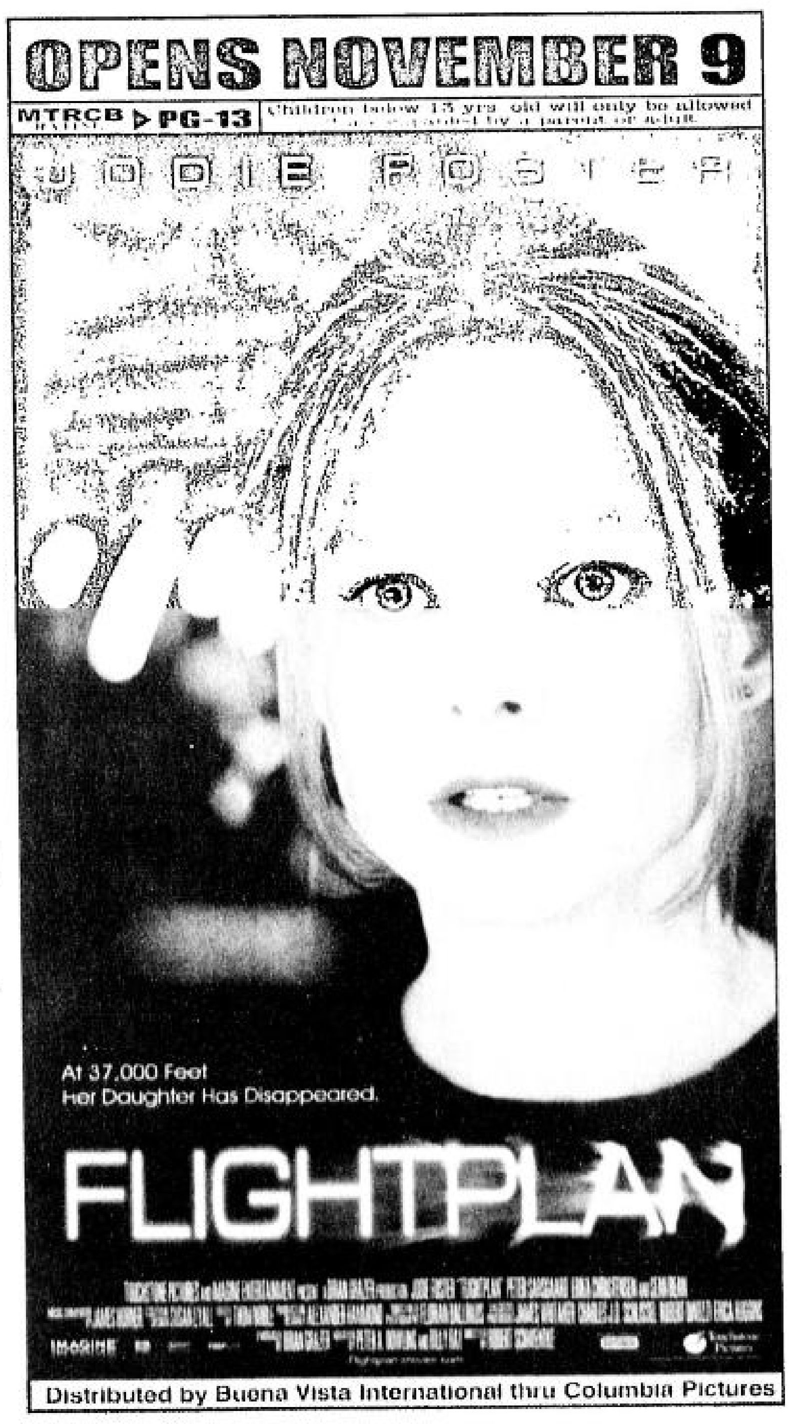
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Hortaleza, Lucas dominate 1st Tour of Matabungkay

INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL champions Ernie Hortaleza and Marita Lucas completed a double in their respective categories by also ruling the 90-kilometer road race of the 1st PowerBar Tour of Matabungkay recently.

Hortaleza, a 43-year-old businessman, clocked 2:14.01 to top the 40 to 49 age group of the men's division and power Du Pont Joven to the team championship. Balfour Beatty-SPTUSA placed second in the team race.

The Southeast Asian Games-bound Lucas clocked 2:17.53 and was runaway winner in the distaff side as she managed to keep up with the male cyclists even in the hilly part of the course.

Hortaleza and teammate Kiko Valenzuela broke free at the halfway mark and kept a 3-kilometer gap from the second group. Valenzuela wound up second with a time of 2:14.21 while Elixir's Rene Camanague landed third in 2:17.35.

In the 130k road race, individual entry Michael David of Taguig City, won line honors in topping the 20 to 29 age group with a time of 3:33.47, the same clocking submitted by runners-up Arnel Aves and Omar San Pablo.

The 50 and above category was won by John Wilkie Dee, who clocked 2:18.23, followed by teammate Boy Cortez (2:18.35) and individual entry Ramon Cortanin 2:28.36.

Alaska's Ronald Cuevas topped the 30 to 39 age group in 3:34.47, edging Du Pont's Lloyd Santos, who also posted the same time. Third place went to Toots Chua, also from Du Pont, in 3:36.30.

The 20-year-old David, Who also won the Tour of Balayan earlier this year, said that he floated with the lead pack before giving it all in the sprint to the finish.

Present at the awarding ceremonies held at Matabungkay Beach Hotel and Resort were PowerBar brand manager Raul Cuevas, hotel GM, Rico Vileta, JC Leviste of the Leviste Youth Foundation and local officials of the towns of Nasugbu, Tuy, Lian, Calatagan and Balayan. Other sponsors were Action and Fitness, Polar Heart Rate Monitor, Nissan Frontier, Fitness first, TREK, and Giant.

Shootout looms in Nokia golf finals

EXPECT A SPIRITED CHASE FOR top honors in this year's Nokia intervillage golf finals with Casa Verde, Magallanes, Don Enrique Heights and BF Resort all primed up for the 36-hole championship slated Nov. 7 and 14 at the Canlubang golf complex in Laguna.

Eight other teams, the runners-up and third placers in the 36-hole sectoral elims, will also come into the finals all fired up in an attempt to spoil the top four teams' bid for the crown in this annual event sponsored by Nokia.

The long break after the tough elimination phase has given the finalists enough time to hone their skills in the tournament to be played using the Stableford scoring system.

The runners-up in the four sectoral tournaments—Loyola Grand Villas, Hillsborough, Acropolis and BF Homes PGA—play in Division A while the Division B cast of third-placers is made up of Cinco Hermanos/Monte Vista, San Lorenzo, La Vista and Tahanan.

Under the rules of the 12-to-play, 8-to-count format event, all teams in the lower division also have a shot at the championship.

The first round of the two-stage finals will be played at the south course of the Cangolf complex on Nov. 7.

The final 18 holes of the event, backed by 357 Boracay, Sonlie International Corp., Pioneer Insurance and Surety Corp., BJ Marthel International, Inc., Aktivade thirst quencher and Pisanti golf shirts, will be played at the north course on Nov. 14.

The event among village golfers in the metropolis also stakes a Buena Vista share for a hole-in-one feat, according to RJ Ledesma, executive vice president of Ledesco Development Corp., the developer of the Buena Vista Nature Park and Country Club in Talisay, Batangas.

Villareal-Banaag tops Chairman's Cup by 5

MEMBER BOY VILLAREAL AND HIS guest partner Ernest Banaag came through with a combined net of 7-under-par 137 to emerge the overall champion in the recent Chairman's Cup of the Sherwood Hills Golf and Country Club in Trece Martirez, Cavite.

Villareal and Banaag won by five strokes over two other teams, Paul Sang-Mark Choi and Tony de Leon-Manolo Agojo, who settled for the two division titles in the 18-hole event held in honor of club chair Bob Sobrepeña.

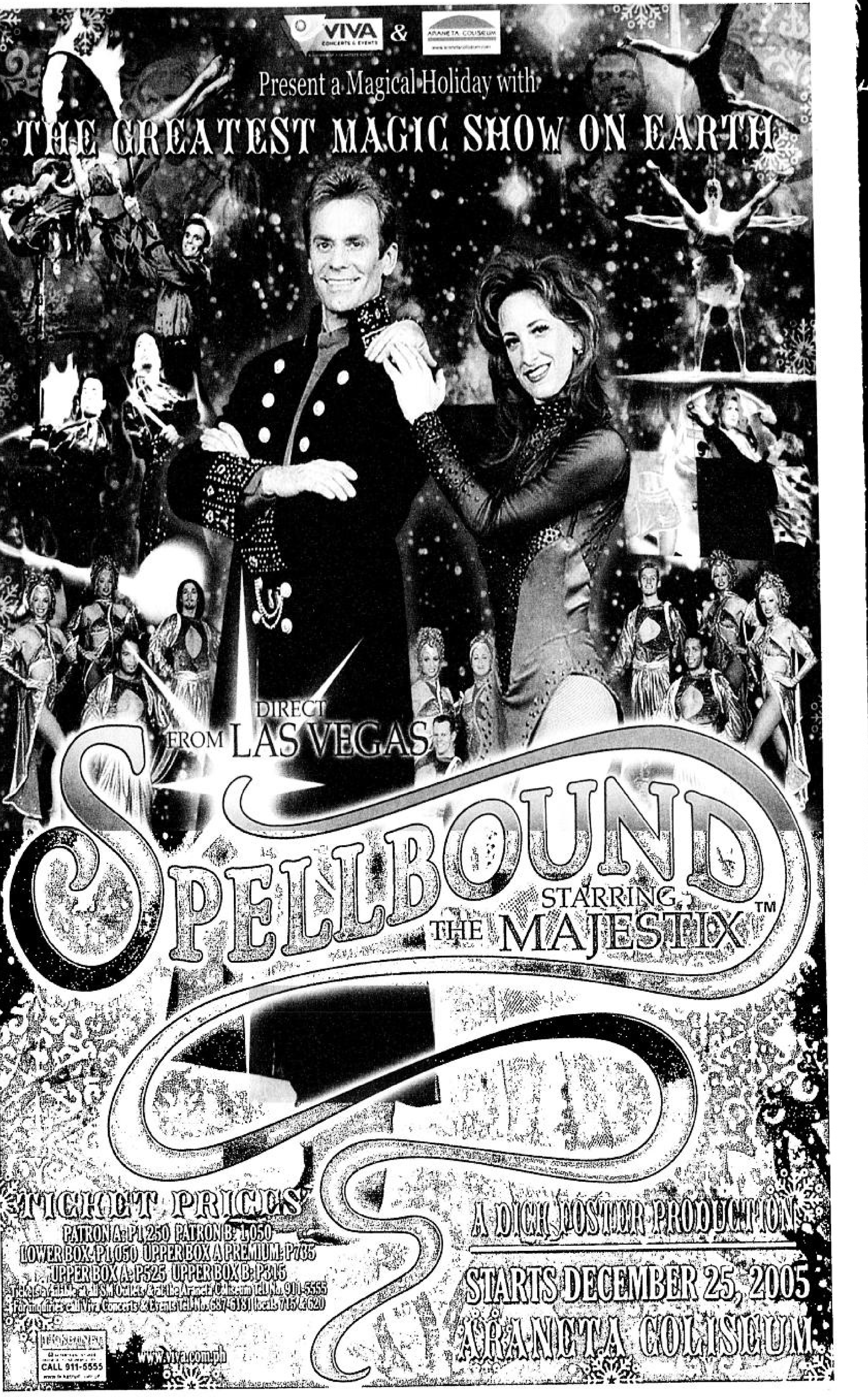
Sang and Choi aggregated 142 to beat the tandem of Luis Oh, the reigning Sherwood Hills champion, and Andy Maglipon by three strokes for the Division I plum.

De Leon and Agojo also scored a 142 and finished three strokes clear of Weng Yuegang and Chu Hai Lan in Division II.

Major sponsors of the event were Golforce, Club Leisure Management and MRT. Federal Management, War Bird, Cork, Information Professionals Inc., Wilson, Sports Specialists, Isuzu, Cargo Aire, New Life Aesthetic and Plastic Surgery Center, Johnnie Walker, Pilipinas Teleserve, Asia-Pacific Golf Corp. and Custom Clubmakers were the hole sponsors.

Makati Golf Club owner Jay Young Ahn, partner of Bong Arguelles, won the grand raffle prize of a Wilson Deep Red Di5 golf set.

Sobrepeña, who was partnered by *balikbayan* George Samaniego, handed out the trophies to the winners.



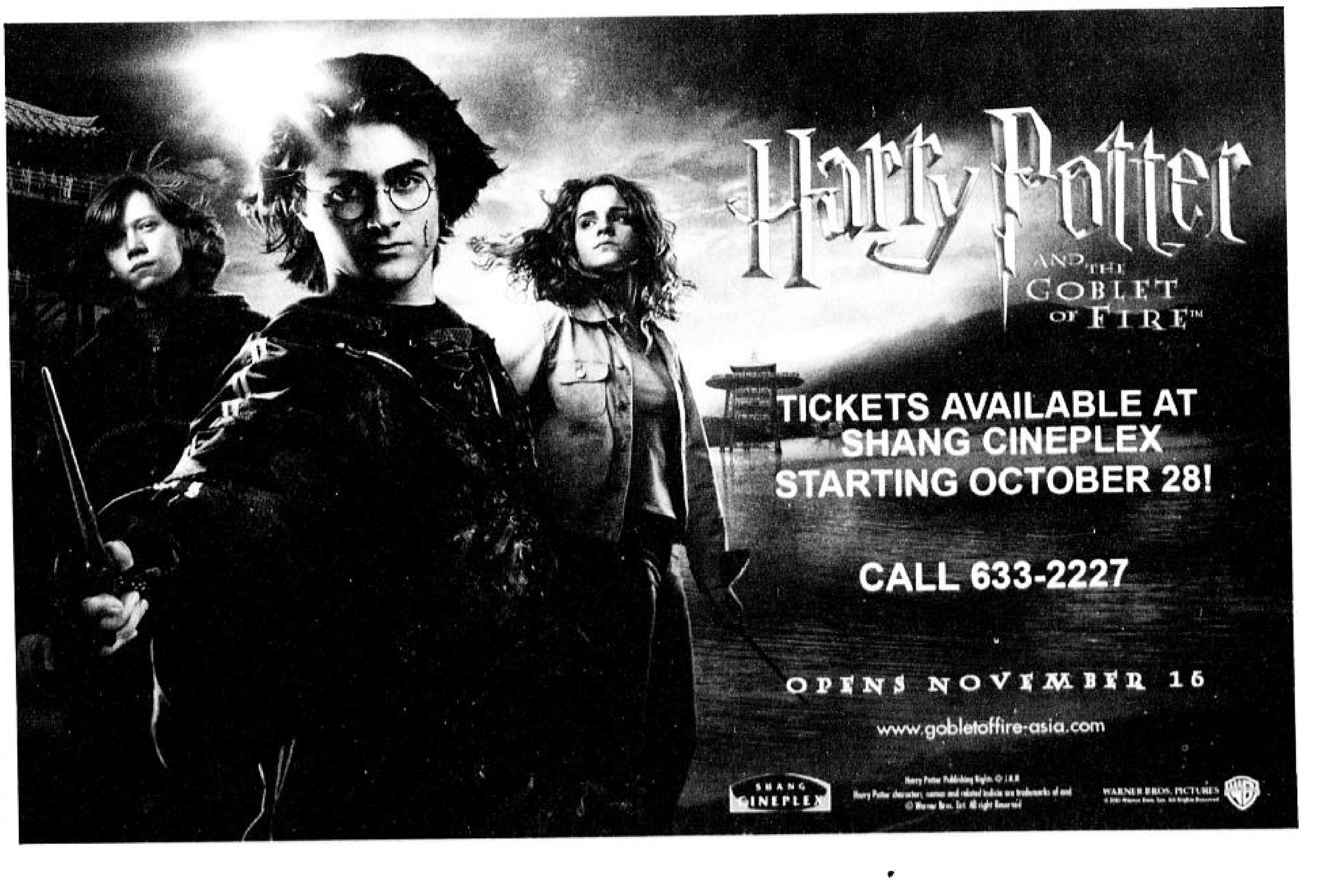
Jojo Binay Cup Invt'l slated at Alabang Nov. 7

FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES, SENIOR EXECUTIVES of major corporations and Makati City officials will gather at the Alabang Golf and Country Club on Nov. 7 at 6 a.m. for the 2005 Jojo Binay Cup Golf Invitational.

This year's edition coincides with the launching of the JCBinay Foundation, the main beneficiary of the golf tournament.

Prominent business firms have signified their support to these programs led by Smart Communications.

Other sponsors are SM Investments Corp., Petron Corp., Land Bank of the Philippines, Alsons, Malayan Insurance, American Eye Center, MIS Maritime Corp., Rizal Commercial Banking Corp., Philippine Savings Bank, Waste Management, Vico Sales, Sycamore Drug Corp., Suremed Laboratory, R.T. Machineries & Sales, Omni Security Investigation and General Services, Inc., EC Sarrol, Inc., Alexander Forbes Phils. Risk Services, Inc., STI, Telequip, Inc., RS Concepts, Inc., Volvo, Safe Seas Shipping Agency Co., Inc., Metrostores, Inc., Pepsi-Cola Products Philippines, Inc., Phil. Health Care Educators, Powerlink.Com Corp., Ad Rule, Inc., People Support, Freeport Shipyard & Engineering Corp., Twinleaf Group, Inc., Ralgo Industries, Inc., Proverbs, Inc., Hilmarc's Const. Corp., H.I.S. Const., and individual donors



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Megamall
THE MYTH
Nov. 18 • Cinema 1

Megamall
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Nov. 29 • Cinema 2

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1 FOUR BROTHERS
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08:30LFS/09:00LMF/10:50END

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1 DOOM
11:00FS/11:15MF/01:20/03:25/05:30/07:35
09:20LFS/09:40LMF/11:25END

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1 DOOM
12:00FS/12:10MF/02:02/03:54/05:46/07:38
09:23LFS/09:30LMF/11:15END

2 LEGEND OF ZORRO
10:50FS/11:10MF/01:45/04:20/06:55
09:05LFS/09:30LMF/11:40END

3 TRANSPORTER 2
10:50FS/11:00MF/12:45/02:30/04:15/06:00
07:45/09:15LFS/09:30LMF/11:00END

MANILA

6 LEGEND OF ZORRO
10:45FS/11:00MF/01:40/04:20/07:00
09:20LFS/09:40LMF/12:00END

METRO MANILA

SM MEGAMALL
1 DOOM
2 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
3 LEGEND OF ZORRO
4 ISPIRISTISTA
5 DOMINO
6 LORD OF WAR
7 WAITING
8 ISPIRITISTA
9 FOUR BROTHERS
10 THE GHOST INSIDE
11 DEUCE BIGALOW
12 MY SASSY GIRL

SM CITY STA. MESA
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 DOOM
3 FOUR BROTHERS
4 WAITING
5 ISPIRITISTA
6 DEUCE BIGALOW
7 DOOM
8 THE GHOST INSIDE
9 MY SASSY GIRL
10 DUBAI

SM CITY BICUTAN
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 ISPIRITISTA
3 THE GHOST INSIDE
4 DOMINO

SM VALENZUELA
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 ISPIRITISTA
3 THE GHOST INSIDE
4 DOOM

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
1 DEUCE BIGALOW
2 LORD OF WAR
3 DOOM
4 FOUR BROTHERS
5 DOMINO
6 ISPIRITISTA
7 LEGEND OF ZORRO
8 ISPIRITISTA
9 MY SASSY GIRL
10 THE GHOST INSIDE
11 LAND OF THE DEAD
12 DUBAI

SM CITY SOUTHMALL
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 ISPIRITISTA
3 DOOM
4 DOMINO
5 WAITING
6 DUBAI
7 FOUR BROHTERS
8 THE GHOST INSIDE
9 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
10 MY SASSY GIRL

SM SUPERCENTER SUCAT
1 WAITING
2 DOMINO
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 LEGEND OF ZORRO

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 WAITING
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 MY SASSY GIRL
5 THE GHOST INSIDE
6 DOOM
7 FOUR BROTHERS
9 DOMINO

SM CITY MANILA
1 DOOM
2 LEGEND OF ZORRO
3 MY SASSY GIRL
4 FOUR BROTHERS
5 DOMINO
6 LEGEND OF ZORRO
7 ISPIRITISTA
8 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
9 ISPIRITISTA
10 DEUCE BIGALOW
11 WAITING
12 THE GHOST INSIDE

SM CINEMA CAINTA
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 DOMINO
3 WAITING
4 DOOM
5 ISPIRITISTA
6 ISPIRITISTA

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1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
3 DOOM
4 ISPIRITISTA
5 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
6 ISPIRITISTA

SM CITY BAGUIO
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 INTO THE BLUE
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 DOOM

SM CITY BACOOR
1 WAITING
2 DUBAI
3 LEGEND OF ZORRO
4 ISPIRITISTA
5 DOMINO
6 ISPIRITISTA
7 MY SASSY GIRL
8 DOOM

SM CITY MARILAO
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 TRANSPORTER 2

SM CITY DASMARIÑAS
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 INTO THE BLUE
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS

SM CITY LUCENA
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 LORD OF WAR
3 INTO THE BLUE
4 ISPIRITISTA

SM CITY BATANGAS
1 LORD OF WAR
2 ISPIRITISTA
3 LEGEND OF ZORRO
4 A SOUND OF THUNDER

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

SM CITY CEBU
1 DOOM
2 LEGEND OF ZORRO
3 TRANSPORTER 2
4 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
5 TRUTH ABOUT LOVE
6 WAITING
7 ISPIRITISTA
8 DEUCE BIGALOW

SM CITY ILOILO
1 LORD OF WAR
2 RESERVED
3 WALLACE AND GROMIT
4 ISPIRITISTA
5 LEGEND OF ZORRO
6 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
7 RESERVED
8 BLADE OF ROSE

SM CITY DAVAO
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 ONE MISSED CALL 2
5 WALLACE AND GROMIT
6 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 WALLACE AND GROMIT
3 INTO THE BLUE
4 LORD OF WAR

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J-Ro trails leader by 4 in Mizuno tilt

JENNIFER Rosales watches her tee shot on the 12th hole. REUTERS

OTSU, JAPAN—ANNIKA SORENSTAM got off to a strong start in her bid for a fifth straight victory at the Mizuno Classic, shooting an 8-under 64 on Friday to finish the first round a stroke behind South Korea's Young Kim.

Jennifer Rosales of the Philippines shot a five-under 67 and stayed four shots off the lead.

Sorenstam, attempting to break Laura Davies' LPGA Tour record for consecutive victories in a single event, birdied seven of the first 10 holes and finished the bogey-free round with eight birdies. Davies won the Standard Register Ping from 1994-97.

Sorenstam, a nine-stroke winner in each of the last two seasons, is 82 under in her last 13 rounds in the tournament. The Swede has eight LPGA Tour victories this year and also won a European tour event in Sweden. She has 64 career LPGA Tour victories.

Young had nine birdies in her bogey-free round on the Seta course.

Japan's Shiho Ohyama was three strokes back after a 65, and South Korea's Chung Il-Mi and Jeong Jang opened with 66s. Davies, Rosales, Sophie Gustafson and Karrie Webb were in a group at 67.

The 78-player field features 43 LPGA Tour players and 35 Japan LPGA players. *AP*

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FOUR BROTHERS R13 1:10,3:30,5:50,8:10,10:30	SHARKBOY AND LAVAGIRL - GP 1:25,3:35 DOOM R13 5:40,7:50	THE LEGEND OF ZORRO GP 1:50,4:30,7:10,9:50

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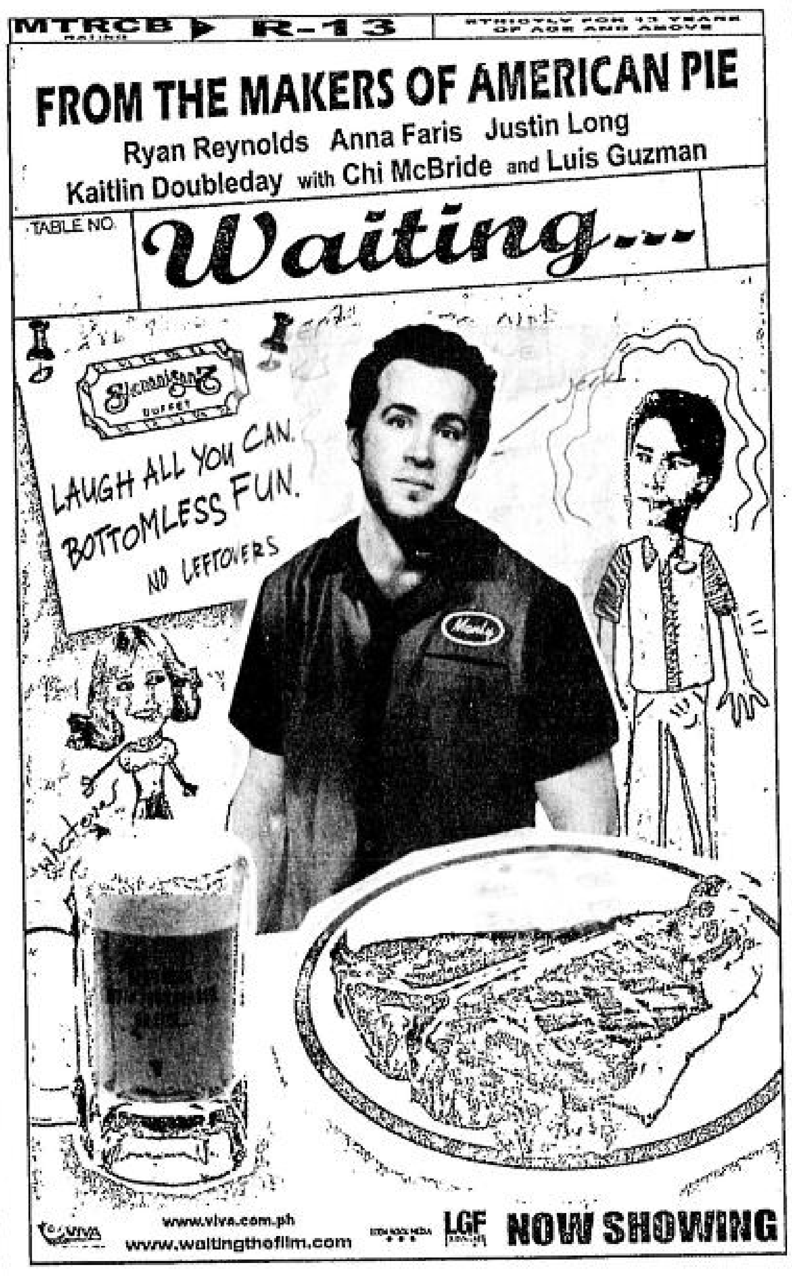
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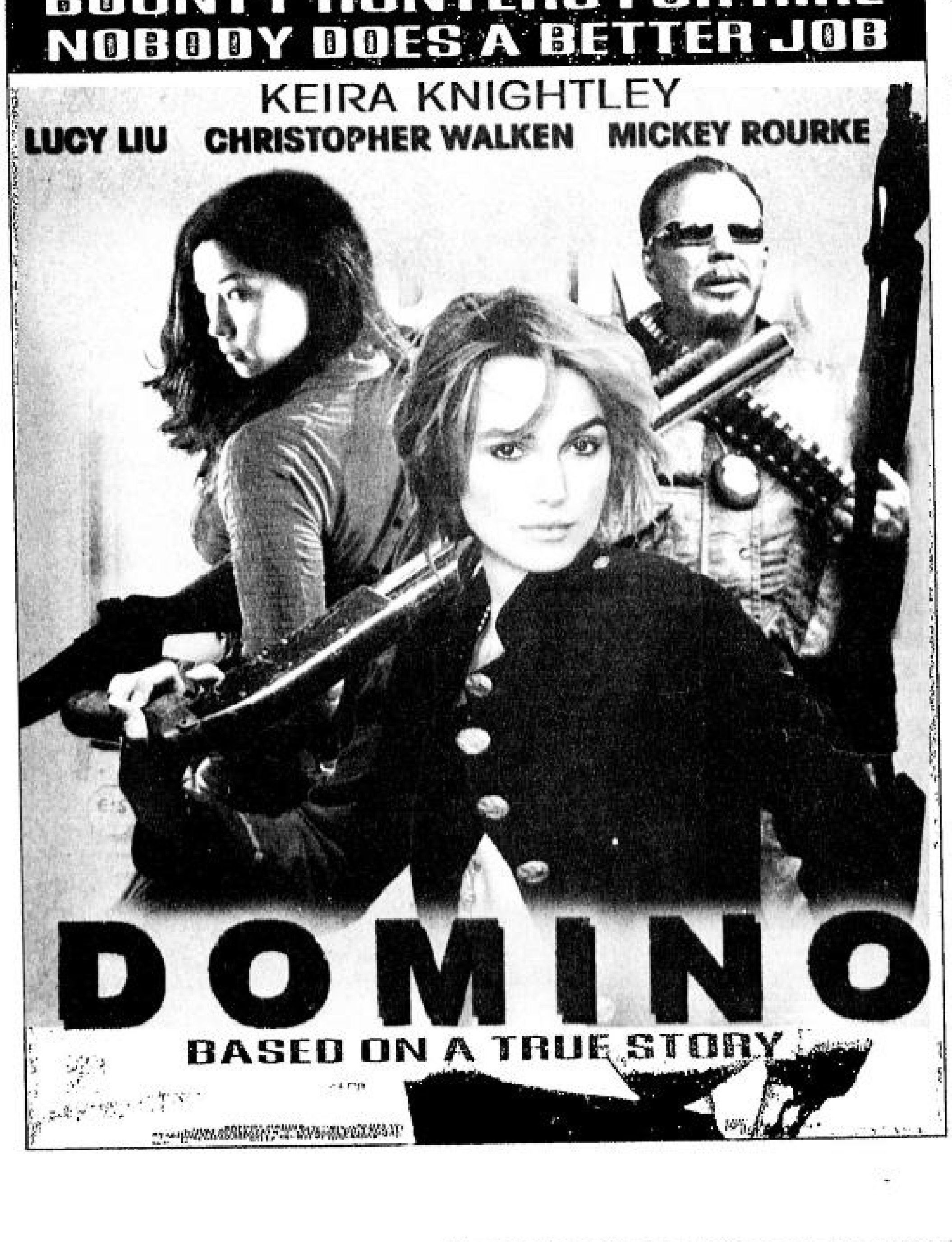
LUCY LIU CHRISTOPHER WALKEN MICKEY ROURKE


DOMINO
BASED ON A TRUE STORY

TIGER Woods lurks behind the leaders in his quest to break golf's $11-million mark. REUTERS

Bryant zooms ahead; Woods just four down

ATLANTA, GEORGIA—AMERICAN BART Bryant fired a bogey-free eight-under par 62 here Thursday to grab a two-stroke lead at the season-ending US PGA Tour Championship with Tiger Woods lurking four strokes off the pace.

Woods would become the first player to win $11 million in a season with a victory here at the $6.5 million showdown of the year's 30 top money winners.

"That's a great start," Woods said. "I started out really well."

But Woods will have to catch upset-minded Bryant, who fired a course record to seize the 18-hole lead.

Bryant missed only two fairways and two greens in regulation, sinking three birdies on both the front and back nines with an eagle coming home as well.

Defending champion Retief Goosen of South Africa was second on 64 with American Kenny Perry another stroke back and Woods level with Spain's Sergio Garcia in fourth after a 66.

Bryant, 42, won the Memorial in June and qualified for the elite showdown by standing 22nd on the US PGA money list.

Woods was five-under par through eight holes but settled for par at the par-5 ninth and made a bogey at the par-4 10th. *AFP*

Ali goes through therapy

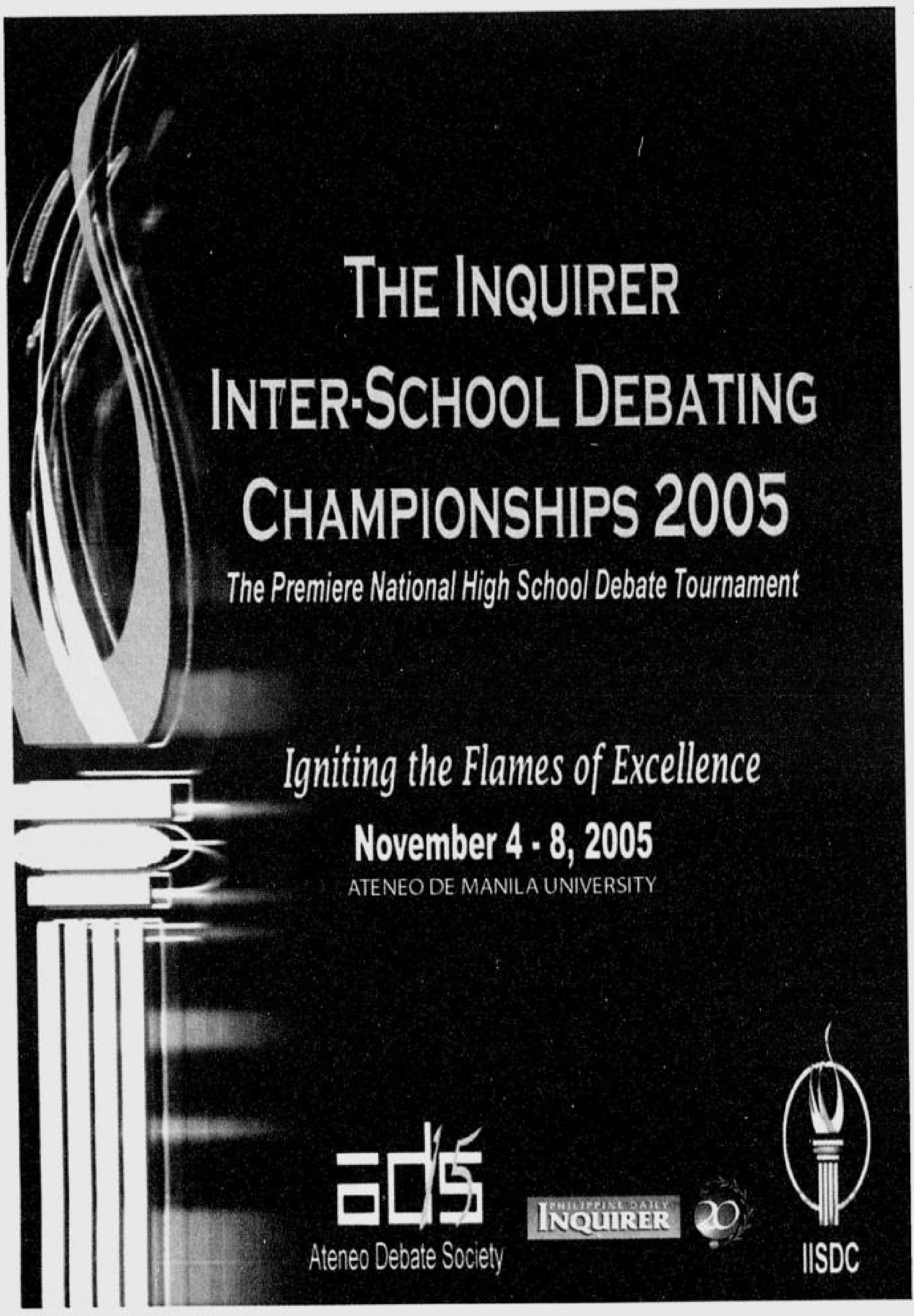
BERRIEN SPRINGS, Michigan—Muhammad Ali was treated for a back and neck condition, and is undergoing follow-up physical therapy.

The former heavyweight champ, treated at Emory University in Atlanta, will return to his regular routine of public appearances when therapy is completed, Ali spokesperson Craig Bankey said on Thursday.

Ali will be at the grand opening of the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, Kentucky, on Nov. 19, Bankey said in a statement.

The 63-year-old Ali has Parkinson's disease.

"Like Parkinson's patients around the world, Muhammad faces challenges each day," Bankey said. "He continues to fight Parkinson's disease with the same courage and dedication he brought to the ring and to his work aimed at alleviating poverty, hunger and intolerance." *AP*



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Pacers, Suns clip foes

INDIANA'S Ron Artest soars for a reverse lay-up. AFP

MIAMI—JERMAINE O'NEAL SCORED 27 POINTS, SIX OF THEM IN THE FINAL THREE minutes, and the Indiana Pacers beat the Miami Heat, 105-102, on Thursday despite blowing a 14-point lead in the second half.

Ron Artest added 22 for the Pacers, who have won 13 of their last 14 regular-season meetings with Miami.

Dwyane Wade had 31 points and 10 assists for the Heat, but his potentially game-tying 3-pointer rattled out as the final buzzer sounded. Shaquille O'Neal had 18 points and six rebounds before leaving midway through the fourth quarter with a sprained right ankle.

Jamaal Tinsley had 13 points, and Austin Croshere and Stephen Jackson each had 11 for Indiana. Udonis Haslem had 14 points while Antoine Walker and Alonzo Mourning each scored 12 for Miami.

Miami led only once, when Haslem made the game's first basket.

Suns 122, Lakers 112

At Los Angeles, Shawn Marion had 30 points and 11 rebounds and Steve Nash had 17 assists and 12 points as Phoenix held off the Los Angeles Lakers.

The Suns, who blew a 17-point lead in the final quarter before losing 111-108 to Dallas in double overtime Tuesday to start the season, led by 17 with 8 1/2 minutes left in this game. But the Lakers got as close as three points before the Suns scored the game's final seven points.

James Jones added 17 points and Raja Bell and Kurt Thomas each scored 14 for the Suns.

Kobe Bryant led the Lakers with 39 points, seven rebounds and five assists. Lamar Odom had 23 points, 16 rebounds and eight assists, and Smush Parker matched his career high with 21 points.

The game was the Lakers' home opener, and their first regular-season game at Staples Center since Phil Jackson was rehired as coach. They opened the season with a 99-97 overtime victory in Denver on Wednesday night. *AP*

Shaq twists ankle, listed as day-to-day

MIAMI, FLORIDA—GIANT CENTER Shaquille O'Neal left the game with a sprained right ankle with 6:35 remaining in Miami's 105-102 loss to Indiana.

The Heat drew within, 91-88, on Jason Kapono's layup with 7:07 left in the game.

After a turnover on the other end, Antoine Walker missed a three-pointer and Shaquille O'Neal landed on Ron Artest's foot—twisting his ankle—while grabbing the rebound.

"He's probably going to miss some time the way he was walking on it," Miami coach Stan Van Gundy.

O'Neal, who scored 18 points, had to be helped off the court, but X-rays were negative and he is listed as day-to-day.

"He's a big guy and anytime he gets injured it's a lot of weight that goes down on it," Heat guard Dwyane Wade said. *AFP*

Zone eyes repeat as Battle of Courts gets going today

ZONE
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MEMBERS of The Zone team with the INQUIRER Cup

THE ZONE BADMINTON CLUB takes an acid test right off the bat as it opens defense of its crown against Quezon City Sports Club in the curtain-raiser of the Battle of the Courts: National Interclub Badminton Championships Year 2 blasting off today at the Rockwell Tent in Makati.

Gametime is 9 a.m. in an explosive showdown kicking off a daylong eliminations among the 11 teams in the field which will be aiming for the two quarterfinal berths in their respective groups.

It is actually a virtual rematch of last year's final as The Zone battles the mainstays of the same team they beat in winning the championship last time.

Waiting in the wings are two more title contenders, Centro Atletico and Valle Verde, who have already gained free passage into the next round following the disqualification of Powersmash due to an ineligible player.

Centro and Valle, however, will still meet at 3 p.m. to decide who will take the top seeding in their group.

Joining the 10 qualifiers from Metro Manila which also includes Peregrine, Family Badminton Center, Alabang Racquet Club, Myan's Badminton Center and Alabang Country Club are the two winners of the regional eliminations held in Cebu and Davao.

The delegations from Portside of Cebu and Smash Ville Fitness Center arrived yesterday.

The field will be vying for the INQUIRER Cup and an all-expense paid trip to the just-opened Hong Kong Disneyland.

"The Disney trip is part of the motivation, but it's not the main motivation," said Centro Atletico team captain Luigi Abad Santos. "The main motivation is to be the champion of this very prestigious tournament."

The country's most prestigious interclub tournament is presented by INQUIRER Badminton, Mizuno and Smart: Simply Amazing.

Citibank On-line, Unilever, Cebu Pacific and Rockwell Center are the major sponsors, Toyota Innova the official vehicle, Gerlfor Taraflex the official mat provider and Bellevue Manila, the official hotel.

Other sponsors are Wilson as official shuttlecock, Powerade, Hero, Viva, Pinnacle Health Pointe Fitness and Spa, Jollibee, Themes and Motifs, Centrex, Batis Asul Catering, EMPRO, Dragon Fireworks, Bankee Trading, L Timestudio and media partners Solar Sports and Wave 89.1.

There will only be games today with the formal opening ceremonies and other side-events scheduled for tomorrow before the knockout matches.

Kicking off the opening rites is the parade of teams at 11 a.m. followed by the welcome speech of Philippine Daily INQUIRER president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez who will also lead the prize presentation for the area champions and the runners-up together with national coach Martin Araneta and other sponsors.

Araneta, who will lead the country's campaign in the Southeast Asian Games late this month, will also conduct a special clinic for kids at 12:30.

The quarterfinals is at 1 p.m., the semifinals at 4 p.m. and finals at 7 with the awarding set at 8:30.

Spectators young and old are also in for a big treat as they can win handsome prizes in the guess the winner contest, watch mascot appearances by Jollibee, join a series of fun games and a special performance by the band Jeff's Crib.

Mizuno is also staging its biggest badminton sale.

The trip to Hong Kong Disneyland will be a new big prize to win for The Zone whose members enjoyed a trip to Bangkok last year as inaugural champion.

Highlights of the game will be shown on a special coverage by Solar Sports.

Stern wishes Artest well

MIAMI—COUNT NBA COMMISSIONER David Stern among those happy to see Ron Artest playing again.

They met briefly on Thursday before the Indiana Pacers' game in Miami, the second the forward has played in since completing his nearly yearlong suspension stemming from last season's brawl with fans at Detroit.

"I think he's a great player and I hope he has an All-Star season," Stern said.

Artest was greeted by lusty boos from the Miami crowd. He insists crowd reaction won't faze him—but acknowledged he was curious how Stern will be received when he visits Indiana.

"Indiana fans can't wait to see him," he said.

Artest was suspended for the final 73 regular-season games, plus the playoffs, after running into the stands after a fan who he thought tossed a drink cup in his face late in the Pacers' game at Detroit in November 2004. *AP*

Roddick crushes Hrbaty

PARIS—TOP-SEEDED ANDY RODDICK FIRED 16 aces in beating Dominik Hrbaty of Slovakia, 6-1, 6-2, in 50 minutes to reach the Paris Masters quarterfinals on Thursday.

Roddick, trying to win his sixth title this year, believed he played close to his best level.

"I felt like everything was flowing tonight," Roddick said.

Also, third-seeded Nikolay Davydenko defeated Russian countryman Dmitry Tursunov, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3, with a sore right shoulder, and No. 6 Ivan Ljubicic advanced his title hopes and Masters Cup ambition at the expense of No. 9 Thomas Johansson, 6-3, 7-6 (4).

"I served unbelievable again today," Ljubicic said. "I just feel like I'm serving from the service line instead of the baseline. I feel like the box is huge. I can't miss it."

Ljubicic and Davydenko were in the hunt for the last two Masters Cup berths with Gaston Gaudio, the 2004 French Open champion. Seventh-seeded Gaudio rallied from 3-0 down in the opening set to breeze past Robby Ginepri of the United States 6-4, 6-1. *AP*

Mauresmo grabs quarterfinal slot

MAURESMO: Comfortable AP

VILLANOVA, PENNSYLVANIA—TWO-TIME defending champion Amelie Mauresmo regrouped after failing to win a match in the last month, beating Japan's Ai Sugiyama, 6-3, 6-4, to reach the Advanta Championships quarterfinals on Thursday.

Mauresmo, seeded third, improved to 9-0 lifetime in the tournament and 8-0 lifetime against Sugiyama.

"I felt really comfortable on the court today," she said.

The Frenchwoman, ranked fourth in the world, is preparing for next week's WTA Tour Championships in Los Angeles, trying to remain healthy and get back on track.

Russian Nadia Petrova, seeded sixth, defeated compatriot Yaroslava Shvedova, 6-2, 6-2, and will face Martina Sucha in Friday's quarterfinals. *AP*

SATURDAY Special
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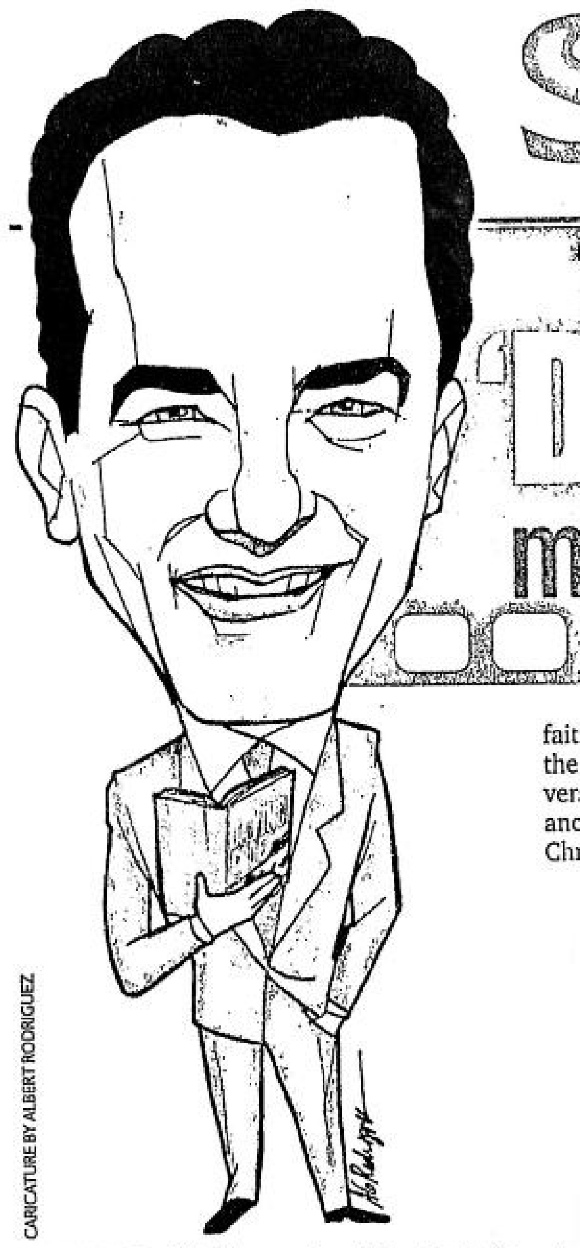
The 'Da Vinci Code' movie, pro and con


CARICATURE BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

HANKS. Topbills film version of Dan Brown's controversial novel.

By Nestor U. Torre

THE FILM VERSION OF "THE Da Vinci Code," starring Tom Hanks, has yet to hit our screens, but controversy is already hounding the production. What's the fuss and bother all about?

As explained by Leigh Teabing, Leonardo da Vinci's famous painting of The Last Supper triggers off a mystery, because the figure at the right hand of Jesus is supposedly not the apostle John, but Mary Magdalene, who was (according to the book) the Messiah's wife and pregnant with his child.

Absence

The absence of a chalice in the painting indicates that Da Vinci knew that Mary Magdalene was actually the Holy Grail (the bearer of Jesus' blood). Again supposedly, this is reinforced by the letter "M" that is created with the bodily positions of Jesus, Mary Magdalene and the apostle (St. Peter) upon whom she is leaning.

According to the novel, the secrets of the Holy Grail, as kept by the priory of Sion, are:

The Holy Grail is not a physical chalice, but Mary Magdalene, who carries the bloodline of Christ.

The Grail relics consist of the documents that testify to the bloodline, as well as some of the actual bones of Mary Magdalene.

The Church has allegedly suppressed the truth about the Mary Magdalene and Jesus bloodline for 2000 years, because it fears the power of the sacred feminine, which it has demonized as Satanic (!).

Putatively, Mary Magdalene was of royal descent (through the Jewish house of Benjamin) and was the wife of Jesus, of the House of David. That she was a prostitute was a slander "invented" by the church to obscure their relationship.

After the Crucifixion, she supposedly fled to Gaul, where she was sheltered by the Jews of Marseilles. She gave birth to a daughter named Sarah. The bloodline of Jesus and Mary Magdalene became the Merovignian dynasty of France.

Conspiracy

Why did the church allegedly enter into this vast conspiracy to fool the world about the "true" Jesus? To hold on to its masculine dominance and the great wealth attached to it?

On the other hand, the putative Code's many critics believe that its "revelations" are mostly spurious, concocted by people who, through the centuries, have been advancing the "subverted authenticity" of the Gnostic gospels (like the Gospel of Mary Magdalene) to weaken the New Testament's hold on Christian believers, and consequently wear down the power and supremacy of the Church itself.

They charge that most of the Code's "documents" are dated too late to be relevant, its "evidence" conveniently "destroyed," and its ideas gross decontextualizations.

It is, therefore, seen to be "not surprising" that the Code ends with Mary Magdalene's tomb unopened, and its secrets left undivulged.

Secret documents

A critic asks, "If the Code's ideologues are indeed in possession of ancient and secret documents that could turn the Christian world upside down, why is the 'evidence' not in the hands of peleographers, linguistic experts, and other scholars now, so it can be dated? Christian missionaries risked their lives to preach the Gospel—what is it that the revisionists fear?"

More to the point, the pros and cons related to the code indicate that there's much more happening here than just a fanciful religious whodunit. If enough people give the code credence, it could challenge the tenets of the Christian faith itself.

So, the decision to film "The Da Vinci Code" has more than just economic and entertainment consequences. If director Ron Howard is faithful to the "logic" of Dan Brown's novel, the film will definitely become very controversial. If it attempts to present a more balanced view, it could pass muster even with Christian viewers.

Which is it to be? Our hunch is that the fact that the generally uncontroversial Ron Howard has been tapped to direct the project, and that Tom Hanks is starring in it, indicates that some balancing is in the works.

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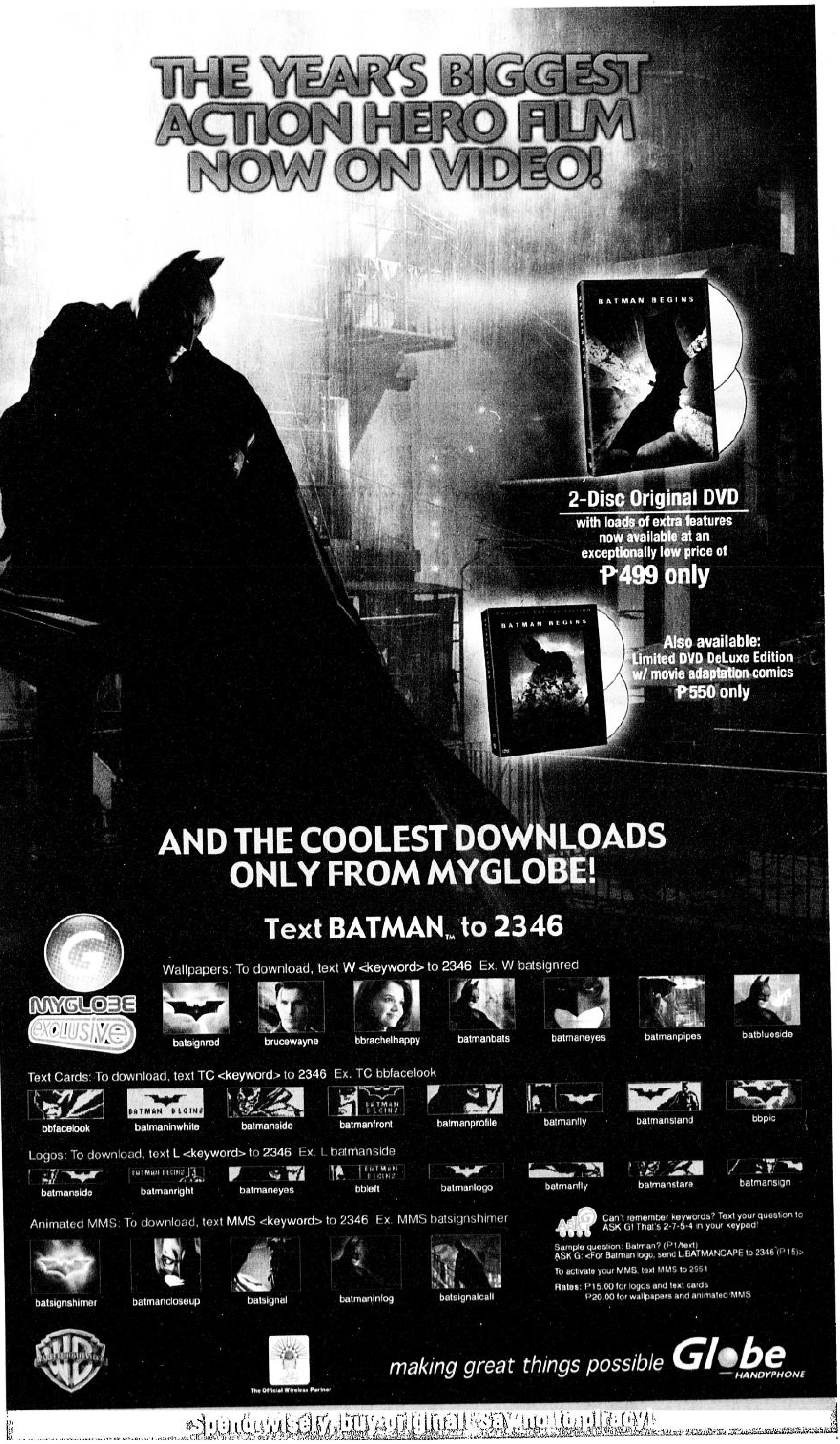
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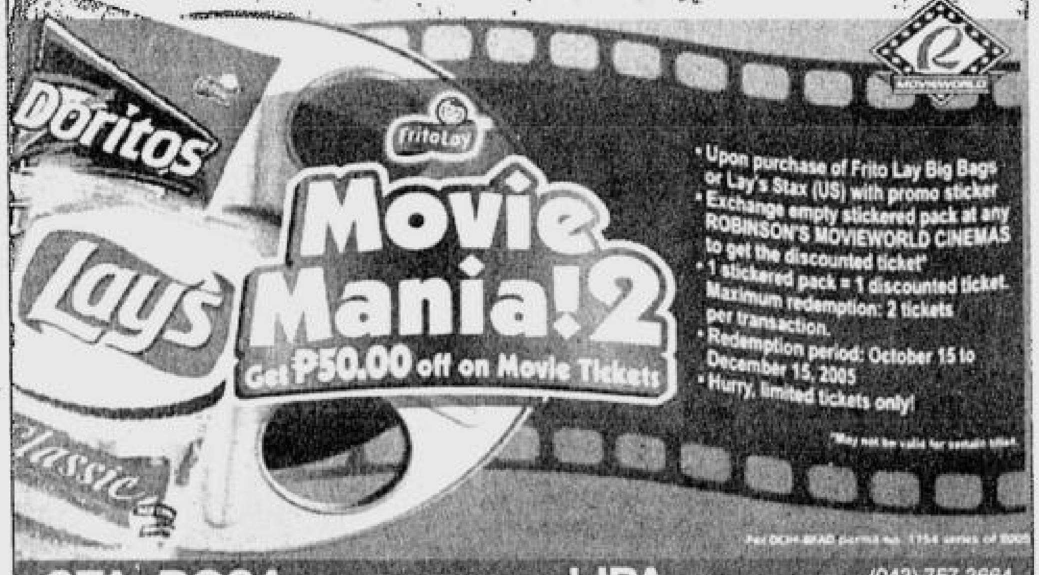

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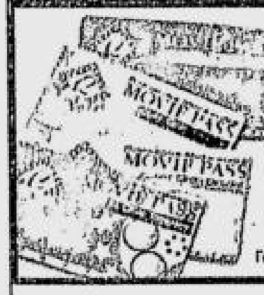

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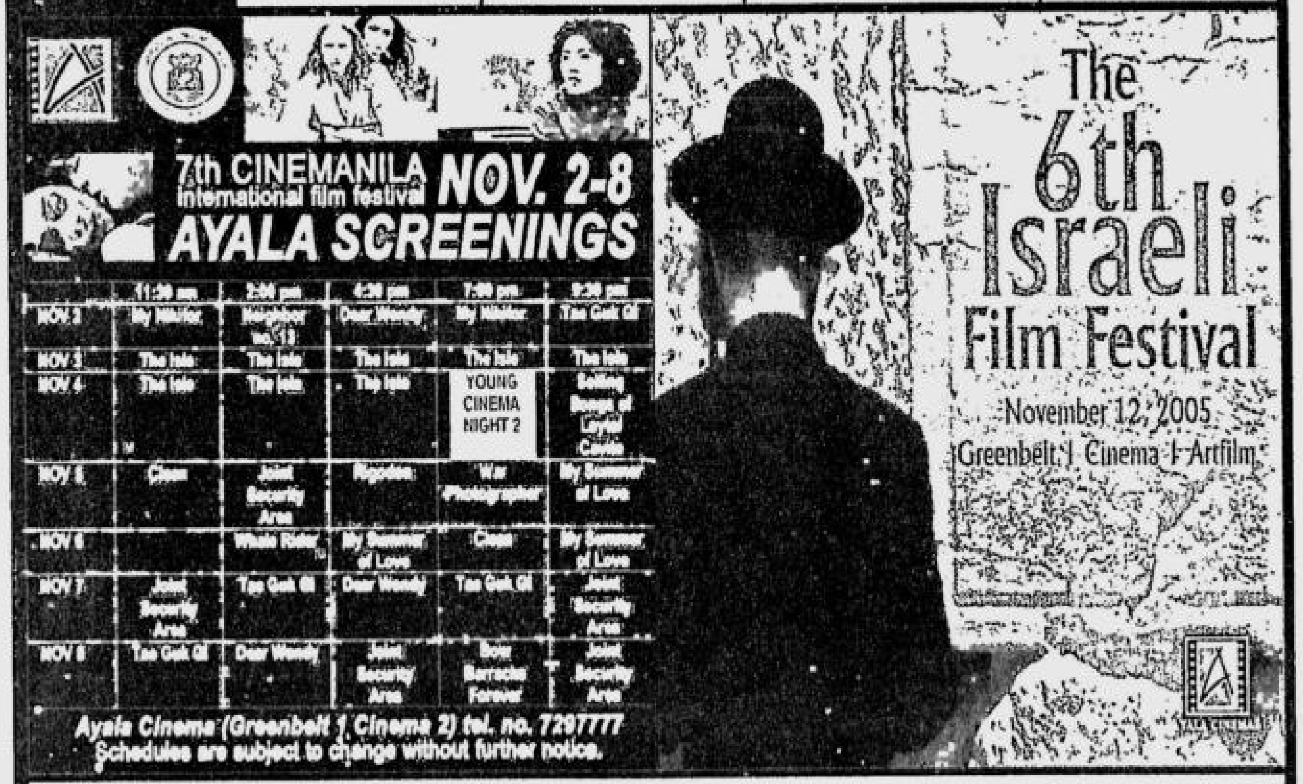

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NOV 6		Whale Rider	My Summer of Love	Clean	My Summer of Love
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Brave step for Billy Crawford

By Rito P. Asilo

BILLY CRAWford's highly anticipated splash in US films was doused by Tinseltown's preference for blood and gore over brains and grit:

Soon after his starrer's completion, studio executives found Paul Schrader's "Exorcist: Dominion," featuring Stellan Skarsgard, Gabriel Mann and Billy, "commercially unmarketable," and consequently hired Renny Harlin ("Cliffhanger,") to retool the latest installment of the horror franchise spawned from William Friedkin's 1973 horror classic. But we've seen"Dominion, " and feel that it's superior to Harlin's version. Some instructive comparisons:

Sacrifice

Interestingly enough, Skarsgard plays Fr. Lankester Merrin (played by Max Von Sydow in the Linda Blair starrer) in both prequels—and does well in them. Merrin, the films' world-weary protagonist, is a former priest who, during World War II in Nazi-occupied Holland, loses his faith and turns his back on his religious vocation after he is coerced to handpick 10 innocent lives for execution—a sacrifice he had to make to save the whole village from the Nazis' killing spree. This particular scene alone deserves the high price of admission in cinemas these days.

On the other hand, in Harlin's "Exorcist: The Beginning," the director utilizes a series of flashbacks to show this part of Merrin's dark past—an approach that results in a diffused emotional impact. To pump up his movie's commercial appeal, Harlin revs up his production with more gore than necessary.

When Cheche, Crawford's character in Schrader's version, utters his first line—"Better"—in Schrader's version, he may as well have been comparing the quality of "Dominion" over "The Beginning"—with good reason.

Psychological spin

In "Dominion," Schrader, the man responsible for the screenplays of Martin Scorsese's "Raging Bull" and "Taxi Driver," puts a searing psychological spin on concepts of guilt and evil.

In 1947, three years after the gut-wrenching incident in the Dutch capital, Merrin finds himself in the maelstrom of a mysterious archaeological excavation: He uncovers a well-preserved fifth-century Byzantine church buried under the East African sand.

But, when Merrin attempts to dig deeper into the church's history, he is led into another incident that mirrors the gory past that he's been running away from—and his need to verify the existence of God in the midst of pure evil resurfaces.

As one character states: "The ultimate power of faith does not lie in its ability to conquer evil, but to survive it."

To be fair, while Harlin's film may have been scored by critics for its graphic violence and derivative storytelling, it nevertheless concocts an engaging story that depicts the harrowing repercussions of evil in fiercely uncompromising fashion, and through provocative, crisply photographed images.

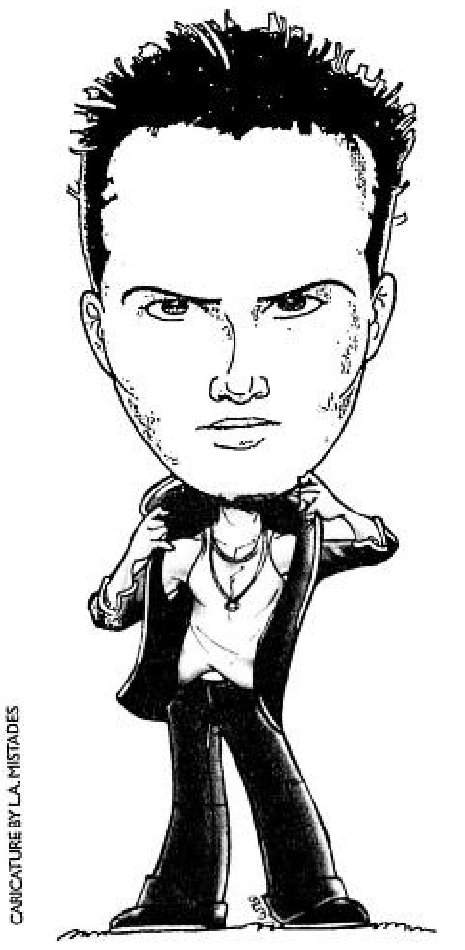
Disparaging reviews

"The Beginning" does not deserve the disparaging reviews it got. It's a pity, though, that Harlin's penchant for cinematic flash—which is simply no match for Schrader's substance— overwhelms his narrative intentions.

Crawford's foray into the big leagues may have been unfairly aborted. But, at least, his film eventually found its place in the sun when it got rave reviews from critics .

As for Crawford's performance, the film doesn't require him to do much—other than look gravely ill or, when possessed by the devil, hurl threats and insults. Nevertheless, he delivers a brave albeit perfunctory portrayal.

The impressive prosthetics may not win Billy a lot of fans, but the pop music heartthrob's decision to take on an unglamorous, physically unflattering role is a courageous step in the right direction.


CARICATURE BY L.A. MISTADES

CRAWFORD. The pop music heartthrob takes a chance in Paul Schrader's "Exorcist: Dominion."

Stars and their stage mothers

By Behn Cervantes

GARLAND. Started performing when she was only three years old.

STAGE MOTHERS are frustrated performers who impose their aborted ambitions on their young children, whom they force to sing, dance and act like robots. Hollywood had many such smothering moms.

Ginger Rogers had a stage mom. Born Virginia MacNath, Ginger was groomed to be a star at an early age. She was made to take dance and singing lessons. At age six, she was brought to Hollywood by her divorced mother, who had been hired as a screenwriter.

At 14, Ginger made her professional debut as a dancer.

Second lead

In 1929, Ginger played second lead in a Broadway musical, "Top Speed." After run-of-the-mill roles, she was selected as Fred Astaire's partner in dance musicals.

In 1964, she played Jean Harlow's pushy mother in the latter's film bio. It is said that her role model was Mrs. McNath.

Judy Garland was born Frances Gumm. She also had the stereotypical stage mom. Mrs. Ethel Gumm moved her daughters to Hollywood for a crack at stardom. Judy was practically "born in a trunk" since her performing parents started her off at the age of three. At age five, she could already captivate an audience with her powerful voice.

Garland's mother gave her all-out attention to Judy after one of her other daughters eloped to escape her control. Judy was obviously the most talented: She possessed a voice that had poignancy and brilliance. In her first movie appearance, "Every Sunday," a two-reel short, Judy held her own beside coloratura Deanna Durbin.

Teen phase

Judy starred with Mickey Rooney nine times during the teen phase of her career. But, it was her performance as Dorothy in "The Wizard of Oz" that earned her world-wide acclaim. However, it is said that Mrs. Gumm so controlled Judy's personal and professional life that the once vibrant daughter consequently became overweight, drug dependent and suicide-driven.

Despite memorable performances (including her Oscar-nominated role in "A Star is Born"), Garland is remembered as the bright light that shone brightly—but tragically!

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Marilou Diaz-Abaya writes and directs Advent telemovie

By Nestor U. Torre

PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN FOLlowing the TV-film career of director Marilou Diaz-Abaya have been wondering why she's been so "quiet" lately, and when she's coming up with a new production.

We touched base with Marilou recently, and found out that she's been concentrating on training her students at the Asia Pacific Film Institute. We've seen some of their works and can vouch for the fact that their esteemed mentor's faith in their talent has not been misplaced.

Gifted

Sooner than later, they should be coming into their own as gifted, well-trained and principled filmmakers, whose works will help energize the languishing Filipino film scene.

As for Marilou's own productivity as filmmaker, she's writing and directing an Advent telemovie for Jesuit Communications, where she's a member of the Board of Trustees. The telemovie, "Maging Akin Muli," will be shown on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 10:30 p.m., on Channel 2.

Project

Marilou is especially happy to work on this project, because it's staffed by her former and current students at the Ateneo, APFI and the Mother of Good Counsel Seminary.

They include Mo Zee as director of photography, Cris Silva as production designer, Chris Vallez and Tim de los Reyes as assistant directors, and De Los Reyes again as editor.

Industry stalwarts Nonong Buencamino (music) and Mike Idioma (sound) are also onboard, and they're having a great time teaching the production team's young talents while the film is being shot in Betis, Bacolor, Magalang and San Fernando, Pampanga.

In "Maging Akin Muli," Marvin Agustin plays Junjun, 26, a deacon. He entered the seminary when he was only 12, but he nevertheless enjoyed his teen years, managed to have a couple of girlfriends in secret, and taught himself to sing pop songs as well.

Vocation

He's never doubted his vocation, but often wonders if there are ways to live it "outside the box." Music is the language of his heart, the prayer of his soul.

After ordination as a deacon, he is sent to his hometown to assist in the parish and to gain pastoral experience, in preparation for his ordination.

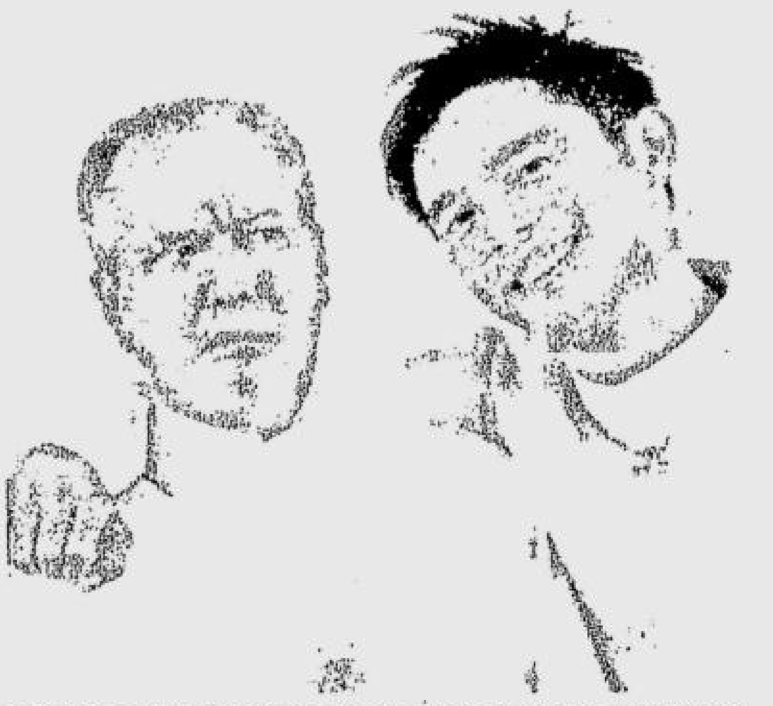
There, he meets Fr. Salvador Bautista (Noel Trinidad), 65, fluent in Latin and Italian, a product of the church's "old school."

"Maging Akin Muli" accompanies Junjun on his journey to the priesthood. At the parish, he encounters the complexities of life for his fellow pilgrims—a generous but demanding benefactor, a young lady (Missy Maramara) in distress, a couple whose son (Ronnie Lazaro) is on death row, etc.

Tension

These people's lives enrich his own, but challenge his vocation to be good and holy, to belong to God. The film explores the tension between human freedom, what people decide to do with their lives, and what God asks of each one of us.

Other cast members include Sandy Andolong, Pen Medina and Jaime Fabregas.



TRINIDAD AND AGUSTIN. Play lead roles in "Maging Akin Muli."

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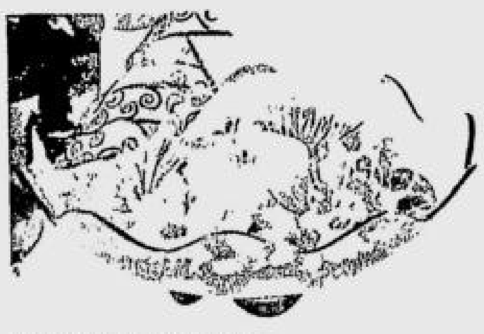

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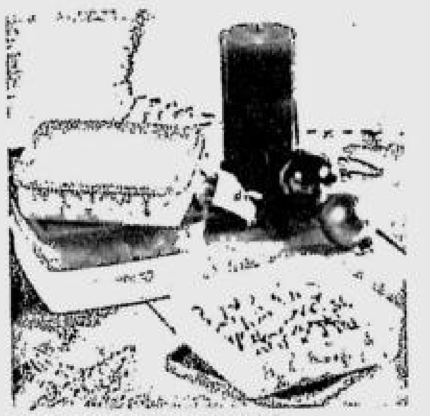

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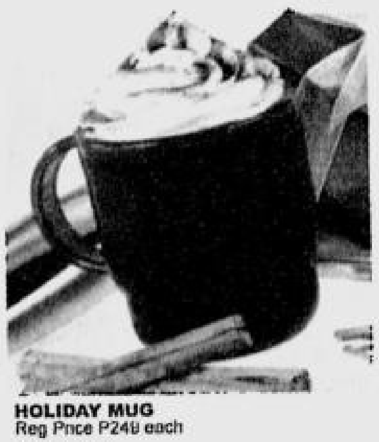

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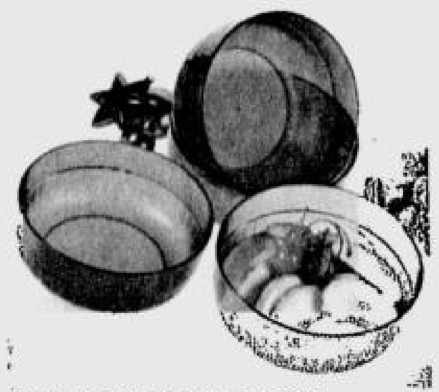

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NOW SHOWING

Fact, fiction and fantasy

By Rito P. Asilo

"Four Brothers"

D: John Singleton
S: Mark Wahlberg, Tyrese Gibson, Andre Benjamin, Garrett Hedlund

GIBSON, WAHLBERG, BENJAMIN AND HEDLUND. Play brothers in John Singleton's action flick.

JOHN SINGLETON is back in his element. His latest cinematic outing has enough twists and turns to keep action-and-suspense movie buffs guessing, squirming and cheering on.

After their adoptive mother, Evelyn Mercer (Fionnula Flanagan), is murdered during a grocery store stick-up, siblings Bobby (Mark Wahlberg), Angel (Tyrese Gibson), Jeremiah (Outkast's Andre Benjamin) and Jack (Garrett Hedlund) rush home to pay their last respects. But, suspecting that there's something amiss about her death, they join forces to track down the killer.

Things, however, are never what they seem in Singleton's urban "jungles"—from "Boyz n the Hood" and "Poetic Justice" to "Higher Learning" and "Four Brothers." But, at the core of the latter's moral issues is Singleton's personal statement about the importance of family.

He peppers his engaging story with crowd-pleasing action sequences and glib, wry humor. Moreover, the bond that links the brothers—two white and two black—is what makes the fluffy areas of the production work.

There are explosions and a flurry of violence in the movie, but "Four Brothers" goes beyond its commercial, popcorn-flick premise, and draws its charm from the brothers' intimacy established by the leads' winsome performances. It's touching to see tough, hardened men shed tears unabashedly when the kind woman who had offered them unconditional love and shelter as orphans is suddenly taken away from them.

"METEOR Garden's" Xu tries the movies.

"The Ghost Inside"

D: Herman Yau
S: Barbie Xu, Liu Ye

In Barbie Xu's ("Meteor Garden's" Shan Chai) first film, Jerry Yan is nowhere in sight, and she squares off against an abusive husband—and ghosts! Finding the courage to leave her spouse, Lin (Xu) settles into a cheap apartment complex with her six-year-old daughter, Nie Nie.

But, after hearing of the fate of the room's previous occupants—a desolate mother jumps off the eighth floor of the building after pushing her daughter to her death—she starts to hear baffling voices. With Lin's former husband hot on her trail, not even the hunky but mysterious next-door neighbor could pull her out of the doldrums!

Xu goes through the motions of acting out a role culled from a dizzying mishmash of borrowed ideas and poorly executed movie clichés. There's hardly anything original or innovative in Herman Yau's predictable yarn. The film works strictly as a fan movie—for Xu's hordes of adoring admirers. Let's hope she does better in her next movie, another horror flick called—what else?—"Ghost Silk."

"Domino"

D: Tony Scott
S: Keira Knightley, Mickey Rourke, Lucy Liu

Tony Scott ("Man on Fire," "Top Gun") hits a snag in his manic big-screen bio of Hollywood actor Laurence Harvey's enigmatic daughter, Domino (Keira Knightley), who shunned the glitz and glamour of her life as a top Ford model to become a bounty hunter. Indeed, fact is stranger than fiction!

Scott experiments by cooking up a frenetic brew of factual accounts and takes artistic liberties by splicing in confusing, fictional details to spice up the movie's tension.

More than anything, however, what a bio flick needs is narrative clarity, and what this director manages to do is merely to foment the mystery behind the person—which is a pity, because the role presents a lot of thespic possibilities for Knightley.

Scott pulls no punches in depicting the protagonist's exploits as a gun-toting felon, but the film's tenuous relationship with reality eventually runs off the rails—and, sadly, what gets lost is Domino's intimate, personal story.

Craig David plays it cool in 'The Story Goes'

By Noelani Torre

R&B SENSATION CRAIG DAVID HAS BEEN lying pretty low the past three years—perhaps in an effort to gain the life experience he admitted he lacked when he released his sophomore album, "Slicker Than Your Average," in 2002. Whatever the reason, he certainly sounds different in his third album, "The Story Goes..."

When David first burst into the scene in 2000, fans, critics, and musical legends like Bono, Sting and Elton John praised his funky garage blending of two-step, soul and hip-hop. His debut album, "Born to Do It," and "Slicker" sold 13 million copies worldwide, garnered him two Grammy nominations, and established him as a bona fide R&B star.

Formula

"The Story Goes..." veers away from the hitherto successful formula of his previous records, what with its playing down electronica and playing up the pop sound and the crooning. Groundbreaking it's not, but neither should it be written off as a complete loss.

Though it explores musical territory that has already been exhaustively utilized by the likes of R Kelly and Usher, Craig David's latest release has features that help set it apart.

There's the voice, for one. Whatever else you may say about him, you can't deny that he has some of the best pipes in the business. David has a voice that sounds like it should belong to a winged, harp-playing being, not a bewhiskered 24-year-old lad from England.

DAVID. More to sing about.

It coasts effortlessly along the smooth rhythms and melodies of the 13 songs in the album's playlist. Aside from sounding good, it helps make bland, safe material seem soulful and classy. David has indeed used his brief hiatus from the recording studio to pick up more of that "life experience."

Light and easy

David has more to sing about this time around, and he expresses himself quite articulately. Combine that with light and easy rhythms, pleasant melodies, cozy guitars and piano, and the result is a listening experience that goes down quite agreeably. This is what you'd call being damned with faint praise.

The thing is, you just don't expect a Craig David song—much less an entire album—to be merely cool and agreeable. You expect more than that from someone who has his kind of talent.

David is being too easy on himself in "The Story Goes...," but let's hope it's just part of his growing process. The bloke's still young, after all, so he has time to come up with material that will truly challenge that voice.

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New child stars come into their own

By Nestor U. Torre

ALONZO. Bested 3,000 kids.

"LITTLE MANHATTAN." Stars Josh Hutcherson (left) and Charlie Ray.

NEW CHILD STARS ARE MAKING their mark in the movies. Topping the list of young comers is 10-year-old Mexican actor Adrian Alonzo, who beat 3,000 other kids to win the "introducing" role of Zorro's son in "The Legend of Zorro."

It was director Martin Campbell who chose Adrian for the plum role, despite his inability to speak English, and his limited acting experience.

Co-star Catherine Zeta-Jones fully concurs with Campell's decision. She gushes, "Our director found a little gem for the role of Joaquin. Adrian could be the next Marlon Brando if he puts his mind to it! He has the rare ability not to act, but just be "

Offbeat humor

Antonio Banderas, who plays Zorro, shares Zeta-Jones' sentiments: "Adrian is amazing! He's got a tremendous sense of rhythm and timing. He's very funny, and understands the film's humor, which is very offbeat for kids."

In "Little Manhattan," another child actor, Josh Hutcherson, gets to play a similarly starmaking role—as the adolescent Gabe, who falls in love, for the first time, with his classmate, Rosemary.

The movie follows the love story of the two 11-year-olds, but also resonates with adult viewers, because it reminds them of their own first romantic experiences.

Josh's previous movie outings include "Zathura," "Kicking and Screaming" with Will Ferrell, and "The Polar Express" with Tom Hanks.

On the local film front, commercial and TV actor BJ Forbes has "graduated" to the big movie screen in Regal Films' fantasy-adventure production, "Ispiritista." He plays the son of Tito Sotto and Iza Calzado.

BJ has won the hearts of viewers due to his natural performing style, and his lack of show biz *porma*. If he plays his cards right, he could become even more successful on the silver screen.

And that would be fine with us, because his *Pinoy* looks and coloring provide a welcome respite from the cloying *tisoy* dominance of our big and small screens.

Rap exponents

Finally, on the rap scene, kid rapper Aikee won the standout rap performance award at the recent SOP Music Awards for 2005. He won over adult rap exponents like Dice, K-9 and Salbakuta.

Aikee has released his debut album, "Ang Bawat Bata," which contains 18 songs that promote positive messages.

Gross-out humor in 'Waiting'

By Noelani Torre

REYNOLDS (RIGHT, WITH JUSTIN LONG). The laughter doesn't happen often enough.

WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT, a day in the life of non-yuppies in search of direction but stuck in dead-end jobs at a chain restaurant is a good idea for a comedy. In the usual course of things, the idea needs to be fleshed out in a script. Rob McKittrick's "Waiting," however, appears not to have followed this usual course.

Plot

The movie does have a script, but it's practically nothing more than a collection of actors' lines. As for the plot, well, let's put it this way—In this movie, it's just a sequence of events that writer-director McKittrick apparently didn't bother thinking too much about.

In other words, "Waiting" is all over the place. Its story doesn't get past its premise. We are shown a collection of one-dimensional characters—the gorgeous lesbian bartender, the white busboys who think they're black gangsters, the anal manager, etc.—and we watch them prepare food, play jokes on each other, and pretend to the customers that they enjoy what they're doing. That's about it.

If you have a great screenplay, you can make it work just fine. Unfortunately, "Waiting" doesn't have a great screenplay.

What it does have is the "penis-showing game" and pretty much every gag that has to do with that particular body part's functions.

Anna Faris, who plays waitress Serena, gives a very good description of all this in the course of her rant against her ex-sweetie, Monty (Ryan Reynolds): "An exercise in retarded homophobic futility."

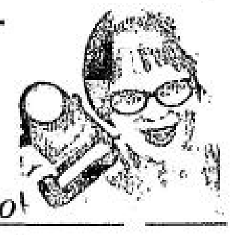
This doesn't mean that it can't be funny. Strangely enough, you may even find yourself laughing in some parts. But that doesn't happen often enough.

Moral

If "Waiting" has a moral, it's this: Don't mess with the people who prepare your food. If you do, you just might find yourself eating mashed potato garnished with spit, steak seasoned with—okay, let's not go *there*, shall we? Take our word for it, it's gross.

You can find humor in the dreary lives of people in the food service industry who feel the need to amuse themselves. "The 40-Year-Old Virgin" runs in a similar vein, and that movie got a lot of laughs without making you feel ill afterwards.

'Natatanging Pilipino'



STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

JURIS SOLIMAN IS MY ASSOCIate in the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP). During the administration of President Cory Aquino, we used to call her "Madir" for her sincerity and honesty.

Her expertise in media relations did not go unnoticed. She was noted for her dedication, meticulous planning, good people-management skills, unquestionable credibility and reputation.

Meetings

In 1977, Juris and Sr. Gloria Ross, RVM, started the Mother Ignacia Healing Center in Bagombong, Caloocan City. She has been spending weekends with the sick. When she began missing PRSP meetings, I asked her why. "They need me more," she answered.

SOLIMAN. Dedication.

Public service

Recently, Juris was awarded the Natatanging Pilipino Award for 2005—Outstanding Government Official, by the Fil-Media Educational Achievers for her "dedication to public service, humanity and community development," according to Emilio San Gabriel, chairman of the awards committee.

At the awards ceremony, Juris said: "Caring for the poor is not the sole responsibility of the government: All Filipinos should be public servants!"

* * *

Our photos on "Celebrities Reading" will be on exhibit during LRI's second anniversary showcase, "Lifestyle in Motion," at the LRI Business Plaza, second floor, 210 Nicanor Garcia st., Bel Air II, Makati City, from Nov. 17 to Dec. 8. Call 899-1767, or email mandy-navasero@photopro.com.ph.

'Be Not Afraid' . . .

From page A3-4

'Batman Begins' on DVD

Christopher Nolan's "Batman Begins," recently adjudged top film of 2005 by the British magazine, Total Film, is now out on DVD and VCD formats, released by Warner Brothers.

Movies on TV

On HBO, Nov. 5 at 9 p.m., "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow." Nov. 6 at 6 p.m., "Raiders of the Lost Ark." 8 p.m., "The Making of 'Rome'." 8:30 p.m., "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom." 10:30 p.m., "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade." Nov. 7 at 11 p.m., "A Thousand Acres." Nov. 8 at 9 p.m., "A Simple Wish."

On Cinemax, Nov. 5 at 6:30 a.m., "Indiscreet." Nov. 6 at 6:30 p.m., "Footloose." 5:15 p.m., "A Few Good Men." Nov. 7 at 2:15 p.m., "Helen of Troy." 10:40 p.m., "Guarding Tess." Nov. 8 at 7 p.m., "Purple Hearts." 9 p.m., "Fire Down Below."

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RANK	PROGRAM NAME	CHANNEL	HOUSEHOLD
1	ENCANTADIA	GMA 7	38.5
2	DARNA	GMA 7	37.4
3	BITOY'S FUNNIEST VIDEOS	GMA 7	35.8
4	MEL & JOEY	GMA 7	32.5
5	EXTRA CHALLENGE	GMA 7	32.1
6	BUDOL	GMA 7	31.8
7	IMBESTIGADOR	GMA 7	31.7
8	KAKABAKA-BOO	GMA 7	31.4
9	PINOY POP SUPERSTAR YEAR 2	GMA 7	30.8
10	KAPUSO MO, JESSICA SOHO	GMA 7	30.3

*AGB Phils. Mega Manila TV Households (Based on Oct 10-22 overnight ratings)

Asahan po ninyong walang patid kaming maghahatid ng mga programang inyong susubaybayan.

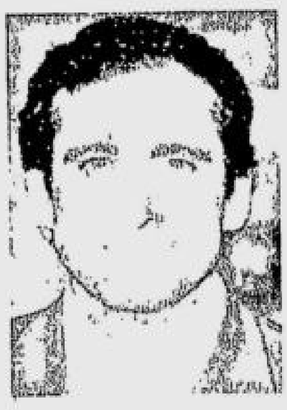
Kapuso Tayo! GMA

GMA
Kapuso ng bawat Pilipino

Hot show biz comers make their mark

By Nestor U. Torre

THE HOTTEST COMERS ON the silver screen these days are paced by Mexican heartthrob Kuno Becker, who kicks off his international movie career with the new sports movie, "Goal!" He plays a Latino youth whose dazzling football skills take him to the top in the international soccer tournament.



CARELL. Belated success and popularity.

Becker makes such a vivid and exciting impression in "Goal!" that it has been expanded into an ambitious trilogy. The sequels will see him shine in a move to a European team, before triumphing at the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

Villain

Before he scored a direct hit in "Goal!," Becker played the villain in Christopher Hampton's 2003 drama, "Imagining Argentina." The taut and powerful film recounted the atrocities committed by the military junta that ruled Argentina in the '70s.

In his native Mexico, Becker is most closely associated with his performance as the handsome playboy son of a wealthy man in the TV drama series, "Soñadoras." The show was a hit in Latin America and Spanish-speaking areas of the United States, resulting in Becker's being tapped to act in Mexican movies like "Isla Bella" and "Lucia Lucia," before international films "discovered" him.

For his part, Steve Carell, the star of the recent comedy hit, "The 40-Year-Old Virgin," had to bide his time for years before he finally made it this year as a film star.

His belated success and popularity have prompted other producers to offer him follow-up roles in their new projects: Carell will play secret agent Maxwell Smart in the film adaptation of the popular '70s TV series, "Get Smart."

He is starring with Greg Kinnear and Toni Collette in the black comedy, "Little Miss Sunshine." And he's voicing the lead character in DreamWorks' new animated feature, "Over the Hedge."—When it rains, it pours!

Crime show

On TV, AXN recently premiered the new crime show, "Numb3rs." It stars Rob Morrow and David Krumholtz as mismatched siblings who finally learn how to work together when they use mathematics to solve crimes.

"Numb3rs" is expected to click with viewers because it's produced by hit filmmakers Ridley and Tony Scott. New stars Morrow and Krumholtz hope that the Scott brothers' extensive experience in screen entertainment will spell magic for "Numb3rs" as well.

Finally, on the local music front, brothers Ej and Brendan Banares are promoting their first CD, which they recorded in the US. Its carrier single is Jimmy Borja's composition, "Aking Inay," and its other cuts include "Bridges," "Happily Ever After," "Sana'y Magkatuluyan" and "One Day in Your Life." The album is distributed in the Philippines by Ivory Records.

Declan Patrick wears many hats

By Mona Gonzalez

RIGHT NOW, THEATER ARTIST DECLAN Patrick is not working (by choice!). He has made his mark in innovative theater around Europe and Asia. He wears many hats: Dancer, actor, singer, choreographer, writer and director. These days, Patrick is taking it easy.

Master Class

Well, not too easy. We caught him conducting an outreach Master Class with the International Christian Academy, thanks to the persuasive skills of its director, Chelo Gemina, who managed to convince Declan to choreograph a number for her students.

Here are interesting things about Declan Patrick:

1. "He's contemporary—that what we know as passé to him," says Gemina. Patrick says "neoclassical ballet" is different from "alternative dance," which is what he loves doing. "I've observed some alternative companies in Europe that use techniques that are very far from what's usually done," he says.

2. Observing him teach reminds you of films like "Centerstage" or "The Company." "His style is experimental," Gemina says, "He goes beyond technical precision." "Communication is a two-way process. You talk to the audience with your body, and the audience responds," Patrick adds.

Remarkable dancer

3. Patrick says you don't need a body to dance onstage. "I know a truly remarkable dancer who's paralyzed from the neck down. She's with a dance company fro the disabled called Touch Compass in New Zealand."

4. He's "been there, done that"—and won't stop. He started dancing at age 10, and eventually trained in and taught ballet, contemporary jazz, improvisation, tango and flamenco.

5. He used to round up cattle on a motorcycle in his parents' New Zealand farm.

6. He's into Balanchine. But, he also cites the works of Timothy Gordon, Douglas Wright, Nacho Duarto and Maurice Bejart.

Intellectual approach

7. It's the thought that counts. "He's very intellectual in his approach," Gemina says. "He translates 'verbal language' into music and gives it soul. His method is probing and analytical, and he strikes you emotionally. You can only deconstruct the dance after you've mastered the 'vocabulary' for it."

8. He's seen some local performances and says, "The dancers are talented, and the training excellent. They make do with little money."

Preventing a pandemic

LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Bismark

TO PREPARE FOR A POSSIBLE PANDEMIC due to the bird flu, some friends have come up with an educational campaign to teach others how to remain healthy even in adverse conditions. Their strategy revolves around "HIQ"—'hygiene-immune boost-quarantine.'

Under hygiene, they advise:

Cleanliness—is next to Godliness. Keep the body, heart and mind clear of impurities.

Avoidance—is staying away from contamination. Don't unnecessarily touch handrails, and other dirty objects. Keep away from sick people, crowded places and from an unhealthy environment.

Protection—is using barriers to defend your body. These include gloves and masks when dealing with the sick or when going to unsafe areas.

Guideline

Under immune boost, here's the guideline:

Vitamins—and other supplements keep your immunity strong. Take Vitamin C or multivitamins. Eat fresh fruits and vegetables.

Exercise—is needed to keep the body functioning efficiently and effectively. A rusty machine is useless, so keep the body tuned-up with regular exercise and movement.

Diet—must be balanced and healthy. You can supply the body with its basic needs with a wholesome vegetarian diet that is free from cholesterol and carcinogens.

Air—is a vital necessity for good health. Not only must it be clean and fresh but it must also be allowed to reach all parts of the body through proper breathing.

Under quarantine, tips:

Germs

Isolate—means separating people who are contagious from those who are well. If you are sick with an infectious disease, don't go around spreading your germs. Isolate yourself in a separate room with your own utensils until symptoms are gone.

Sterilize—all things that you handle. The sun is a good agent for sterilizing. You can use chlorox or alcohol for disinfecting things that have been handled by sick people, or those who are carriers of diseases.

One time, our spiritual teacher told one of his students who treated the issue of health with indifference: "It is displeasing to the Supreme Person when you do not care for the body, which is an important tool that you can use to serve the Supreme Being."

Vilma and Ralph . . .

From page A3-4

The November issue does not stop there. Mr. & Ms. highlights Christmas gift-giving with its special, The Colors of Christmas, a special holiday shopping supplement. Readers are in for a lot of gift suggestions, tips to wrap up your presents, what buyers should know—and more.

Features

For its monthly features on body, mind and spirit, Alice Villadolid writes about the Furious Spirits of Katrina and Katerina, alluding to the hurricane that flattened New Orleans, and the Saints who share the name of the catastrophe.

The November issue also offers "healing," with two articles putting stress on wellness: Regression Therapy, which focuses on looking into past lives to heal the present; and the Therapeutic Aspect of Colors, emphasizing the curative value of hues.

Plus: Beauty questions answered, tips for parents, fashion highlights, movies, shows and exhibits, health and fitness, sensual massage, and advocacies like animal rights, and regular columns, Gay Rap and Rainbow Crossings.

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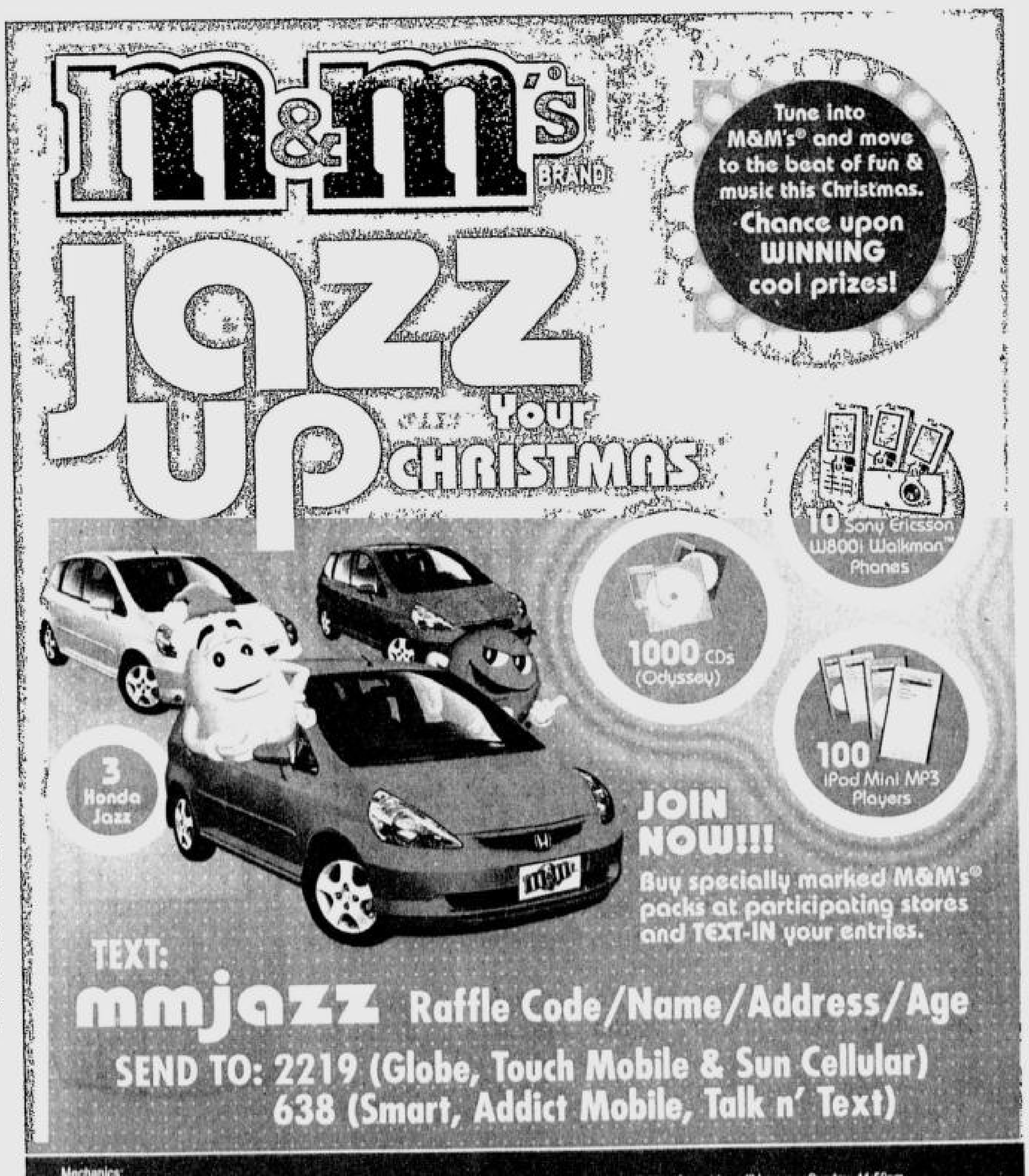
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5. Weekly cut-off dates for entries will be every Sunday, 11:59pm.
6. Draws will be held in the presence of a representative from BFAD, Cube Interactive and Master Foods Philippines, Inc.
7. Winners will be sent a text message with accompanying instructions on how to claim the prize. Winners must be prepared to present the text message notification together with the M&M's® wrapper with the winning raffle code. Damaged, altered and/or tampered stickers, as well as wrappers with no promo stickers and vice versa will be disqualified and rendered invalid.
8. Verified winners will then be eligible to claim their prize.
9. Prizes are non-transferable and not convertible to cash.
10. All prizes are tax paid.
11. Employees of Master Foods Philippines Inc, all their agencies, suppliers, partners and sponsors, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.

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Mel Gibson directs 'Apocalypto'

GIBSON. His new film will be light on dialogue and heavy on images and action.

VERACRUZ, MEXICO—A FASCINATION with ancient cultures, "great civilizations" and a predilection for big, entertaining productions packed with action, violence and suspense is what led Mel Gibson to create his newest upcoming movie, "Apocalypto," he said recently.

"What I'm doing is making an action-adventure film of mythic proportions," Gibson told a news conference in this Gulf Coast city.

Jungle

The movie will be shot almost entirely in a jungle in Mexico.

The film's stars will be unrecognizable to most moviegoers. All of them are Mexican actors, mostly indigenous and unknown, who will speak in the Mayan tongue of Yucateco, Gibson said. The female lead is a young woman from Veracruz.

Conquest

The film, which the actor/director described as "not a big-budget" production, will be light on dialogue and heavy on images and action. It will take place 600 years ago, prior to the 16th-century Spanish conquest of Mexico and Central America.

But the most anyone will see of the famous 49-year-old actor is his fingernails."If I was in it, it would wreck everything," he explains.

In his first public explanation of the movie, both written and to be directed by Gibson, the actor revealed little of the plot, saying "it doesn't bode well to say too much about what you're doing. It's just not good business."

Gibson said he decided to hold a news conference "to satisfy people's curiosity a little bit" and knock down inaccurate speculation.

He said the movie is "a story about a man and his woman, his child and his father, his community," adding that the man "is put in an incredibly heightened, stressful situation. He has to overcome tremendous obstacles. It's a universal story in that respect."

Format

The format for the movie—an epic story featuring an ancient culture—is in keeping with Gibson's past projects, including his independently produced "The Passion of the Christ," which featured dialogue in Aramaic and Latin. Like "The Passion," Gibson will bankroll "Apocalypto." *AP*

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KATIPUNAN, MAGISA, ESTABILLO. Portray a variety of characters in new play about Pope John Paul II.

'Be Not Afraid' opens Nov. 8

FOR PEOPLE WHO ADMIRE THE LATE POPE John Paul II, all roads lead to the Shrine of Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life" on Nov. 8, for the invitational gala performance of "Be Not Afraid," the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines' fundraising production on the life of the much-loved Catholic pontiff.

MONTAGE

The play is in English, is directed by Nestor U. Torre, and topbills Boots Anson-Roa, Tommy Abuel, Robby Romero, Rito Asilo, Andy Bais, Danny Magisa, Karla Pambid, Chichi Atienza, Trish Katipunan, Albert Jimenez, Cecil Torre and Myka. Production design is by Tony Adriano.

If you want "Be Not Afraid" to be performed in your parish, school or locality, call Andy at 780-9210 or 0919 206-5424, and the CBCP Office on Women at 527-8031 or 527-4138.

Hallmark's hot picks for November

The channel "where great stories come to life" presents tales of mystery and conspiracy for the month of November:

The two-part feature, "Frederick Forsyth's Icon," premieres Nov. 6 at 9 p.m. It's based on a novel set in Bulgaria and Russia, and stars Patrick Swayze and Annika Peterson.

In the film, CIA agent Jason Monk and FSB detective Sonia Astrova team up to stop a madman bent on taking over Russia.

On Nov. 13, 20 and 22 at 9 p.m., "Midsomer Murders," one of Hallmark's top-rated programs, will be presenting three of its best episodes. The series is based on the novels of Caroline Graham, and regularly attracts millions of viewers in the UK.

Other must-see series: (all at 10:35 p.m.): Mondays, "Wire in the Blood II." Tuesdays, "The Agency II." Wednesdays, "Strong Medicine, III" (season finale). Thursdays, "Judging Amy." Fridays, "Wife Swap, III." The popular sitcom, "The Nanny," airs M-F, at 2 and 6:30 p.m.

Ice skating contestant

Shiara Mary Peñarubia, a Grade 4 student at Jasms Malate, will take part in the forthcoming "SM Skate Manila" from Nov. 15 to 18.

BE NOT/ A3-2

PEÑARUBIA

Mr.&Ms.
HEALING
SENSUAL MASSAGE
A YOGI AND SOME YOGA
SAILING INTO THE SUNSET
COLOR
RALPH RECTO & VILMA SANTOS
JOHNNY DELGADO & LAURICE GUILLEN:
The Colors of Christmas Shopping

SANTOS and Recto grace the cover of november Issue of "Mr. & Ms."

Vilma and Ralph rekindle romance

THEIRS IS TRULY A LOVELY STORY FIT FOR a romance novel. The Mr. & Ms. November issue goes further, hinting that the romance may go as far as history books and Malacañang.

Sen. Ralph Recto and Mayor Vilma Santos, future first couple?

Mr. & Ms. catches the couple in an intimate *tete-a-tete,* with Vilma telling stories about Ralph's courtship, their life together, their careers, and Ralph sharing a glimpse of Vilma as a wife and mom.

Revelations

Aside from the couple, actor Johnny Delgado and director Laurice Guillen grace the pages of the magazine with revelations of their show biz hiatus, their pursuit to know more about their faith, and their struggle to bring up their kids.

VILMA/ A3-3

WHAT'S INSIDE

RP to step up exports to Taiwan /B3

ICTI investing $30M in Madagascar project /B8

BUSINESS

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Website: www.inq7money.net

Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

Plan to tap LGUs in VAT collection junked

Delay seen in Calaca plant bidding

By Abigail L. Ho

LOTILLA

BIDDING FOR THE 600-megawatt (MW) Calaca coal-fired power plant will be delayed again as the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (PSALM) is still finalizing the required paperwork for the auction.

Energy Secretary and PSALM vice chair Raphael Lotilla said the state agency was still working on the transaction documents for the final bidding, which could mean that the auction might not take place on Nov. 10 as planned.

"(The bidding) might slide a bit," he told reporters.

But he said this was no cause for alarm as, due to the size of the plant, it was not unusual for investors to ask for more time to conduct their due-diligence audit.

He related that the same thing happened with the 600-MW Masinloc coal-fired power plant, the bidding for which was rescheduled a few times before finally being sold to the YNN Pacific consortium.

The Calaca plant was first placed on the auction block in late June, but the bidding was abruptly cancelled when only one of the three expected bidders submitted an offer.

During that bidding, only First Gen Luzon Power Corp. submitted the required bid documents.

The two other bidders, Japanese firm Mitsui & Co. Ltd. and Filipino-Malaysian Phil-Mal Petroenergy Corp., backed out shortly before the deadline.

PSALM then scheduled a second round of bidding for the plant in October, but this did not push through. This was finally scheduled for Nov. 10.

The government aims to sell nine more plants of the cash-strapped National Power Corp. within the remaining two months of the year instead of the earlier plan to dispose of four assets.

PSALM president Nieves Osorio said in an earlier presentation that assets to be auctioned off within the year included the Calaca plant, the 112-MW Pantabangan-Masiway and 360-MW Magat hydro power plants, and the decommissioned 225-MW Bataan and 200-MW Manila thermal power plants.

Other plants that would be

DELAY/ B2

BIR says it can't find legal basis to adopt proposal

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE has junked an earlier plan to deputize local government units to collect value-added taxes from businesses, a move originally intended to help the national government ensure the collection of the tax especially with the recent implementation of the new VAT law.

Finance Secretary Margarito Teves said that while the DOF found it useful to tap the assistance of LGUs in the collection of the VAT, the government agency could not find a legal support for the plan.

Revenue Commissioner Jose Mario Buñag echoed the same sentiment, saying the Tax Code did not allow the BIR to task LGUs, through the local treasurers, to collect VAT for the national government. He said the BIR, an attached agency of the DOF, was the sole government body that could legally collect VAT.

The idea of allowing LGUs to collect VAT from businesses operating in their respective areas was volunteered by the Philippine Association of Local Treasurers and Assessors (Phaltra), a group of treasurers and assessors in provincial, city and municipal governments.

Victor Endriga, president of Phaltra, said deputizing local treasurers to collect VAT was a practical move, given that LGUs were more familiar with the business operations in their localities and thus could collect taxes much easier than the national government. He added that LGUs could better detect tax delinquency because they could better identify businesses operating in their areas.

If the DOF and the BIR had only tasked LGUs to collect the VAT before, then the national government would not have suffered a fiscal problem at its current proportion, Endriga said, adding that the national government would not even have to implement the new VAT law, which it said was

PLAN/ B2

October inflation steady at 7%

By Michelle V. Remo

CONSUMER PRICES INCHED UP 7 PERcent year-on-year in October, just maintaining the previous month's inflation level, the National Statistics Office reported yesterday.

The latest inflation figure was within the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' forecast of between 6.5 and 7 percent. Average inflation for the first 10 months of the year stood at 7.9 percent.

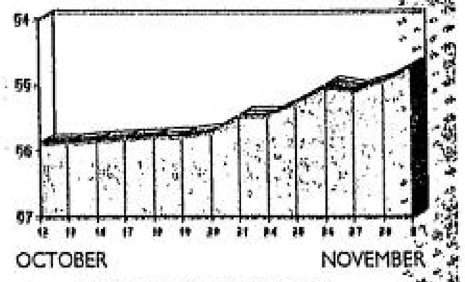
Core inflation, which factors out volatile prices of food and energy, eased to 6.3 percent from 6.5 percent the previous month. This indicated that demand pressures in October were not substantial, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said.

But while October inflation was steady, it

GOV'T/ B2

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



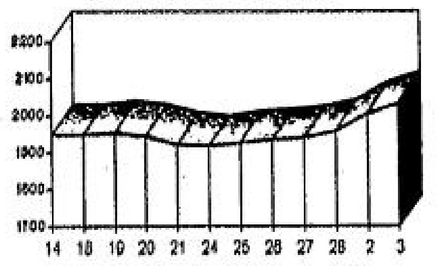
PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱ 54.63 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Nov. 3, 2005

¥ 116.83 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Nov. 2, 2005

GOLD: $464.30-464.80
per ounce Hong Kong, Nov. 3, 2005

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B2)

Markets closed

FINANCIAL MARKETS WERE CLOSED YESterday due to a public holiday and analysts expect some profit taking when trading resumes Monday.

Share prices have rebounded since the expanded VAT law took effect on Nov. 1. The market closed 1.22 percent higher on Thursday, extending gains made the day before on increased confidence in government policy.

MARKETS/ B2

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More local firms registering trademarks, brands, IPO says

By Ronnel W. Domingo

CRISTOBAL

MORE LOCAL FIRMS ARE DEVELOPING their own brands and trademarks, according to the Intellectual Property Office.

IPO data showed that it received 12,000 applications for brand and trademark registration last year, of which two of three were filed by local firms.

IPO Director General Adrian S. Cristobal Jr. said this was a new trend considering that about seven years ago, foreign applications for trademark registration made up about 70 percent of the total.

"As of the end of October, we have received 10,637 trademark applications, which picks up the momentum of an uptrend that has kept up in the past five years," Cristobal said.

"This is a sign that there is a lot of business activity in the market for Filipino firms and even creativity and designs and logos," he said. "We hope to see that kind of change in our patent applications."

Cristobal explained that trademarks could increase unit sales and cement customer loyalty, gain royalties through licensing and even provide a foundation for a franchise network.

He said the lack of an identifying brand can affect the value and marketability of Philippine products sent abroad.

"For our products to flourish and find markets abroad, we need to develop innovative and commercially viable marks and brands with an international appeal, but with a national identity," Cristobal said.

To help promote this, the IPO chief said the agency would simplify procedures for registering trademarks; raise the quality of trademark examination; and maintain the integrity of the trademark system.

Cristobal said IPO was also cutting short its current turnaround time for trademark registration of four years and eight months to nine months by 2007.

"We will also make our services more accessible to local industries outside Metro Manila by making Trademarks Online operational, so that operators of small and medium enterprises need not come to Manila to register their trademarks," he said.

"One of the new missions of (IPO) is to mobilize knowledge and technology to increase productivity and enhance the competitiveness of Philippine industries, especially SMEs and cultural industries," he added.

October inflation steady at 7%

From page B1

was still much higher than the government's official full-year target of between 5 and 6 percent. Economic officials have already conceded that the 2005 target was no longer attainable, given the unexpected sharp increases in oil prices over the past months.

The BSP's forecast the average inflation for 2005 would settle anywhere between 7.6 and 7.9 percent.

Victor Abola, economics professor from the University of Asia and the Pacific, agreed with the 7.6- to 7.9-percent forecast for the full year. He said inflation, which even went above 8 percent in the early part of the year, would settle at a slightly lower level of 6.8 or 6.9 percent in November and December.

Abola cited the slight softening of the price of crude in the last few days of October, falling below the $60-a-barrel mark. It is expected to stay below the mark in the last two months of the year, he said.

The economist said the implementation of the VAT Reform Law, which took effect Nov. 1, was not seen to have a substantial impact on commodity prices this year. He said its effect would be felt starting January next year, when the VAT rate would be raised by 2 percentage points to 12 percent.

Abola said average inflation for 2006 would likely settle at around 7.5 percent, factoring in the effects of the increase in the VAT rate. If not for the VAT law, 2006 inflation would only be at 6.5 percent.

Plan to tap LGUs in VAT collection junked

From page B1

burdensome to the public, just to scrounge for revenues.

Phaltra earlier said it was already set to sign a memorandum of understanding with the DOF on deputizing LGUs to collect VAT. But it turned out that the DOF was still confirming the legality of such a move.

But the BIR said that while Phaltra's proposal of deputizing LGUs to collect VAT was not possible, the national government was more open to another suggestion of the group to help address the fiscal problem.

This involves an information-sharing arrangement between the BIR and LGUs. Under the proposed arrangement, the BIR will also provide LGUs with needed data such as financial statements submitted by companies to help facilitate the collection of local taxes, the same way the LGUs currently freely provide the BIR with taxpayer information that the latter needs in collecting taxes.

Markets closed

From page B1

Dealers said investors also bought stocks of companies that were likely to report strong third-quarter results, while a much stronger peso provided an additional boost to sentiment.

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index rose 24.58 points Thursday to 2,031.70, the day's high and the best finish since Aug. 12 when it ended at 2,038.10. Turnover was 579.8 million shares worth P1.29 billion.

"Confidence has returned to the Philippine market," said Ron Rodrigo of Accord Capital Equities.

"Investors are hopeful the government will be able to solve its deficit problem now that the expanded VAT is being implemented," he remarked.

"The peso's rise was also a major contributor to the stock market's rally," Rodrigo said. "This means companies are likely to report more (foreign exchange) gains." *With a report from AFP*

VAT BERRY. VAT has claimed the attention of a whole nation that has gone bored of the various rallies plaguing Malacañang. But now that the All Saint's Day holiday week is upon Baguio, some vendors here have a better excuse for pricing their strawberries at P200 a kilo. Vendors say, however, that strawberry prices should go down by Christmas when the popular berry is in season.

VINCENT CABREZA

Justice of the fist

Second of two parts

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

THE RECENT SUPREME COURT ruling mentioned the starring role of former Transportation and Communications Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez.

A former middle manager of the airport authority, Alvarez zoomed to prominence when he took over the DOTC as soon as this cute administration of Gloriaetta came into power.

He got a special citation in the Supreme Court ruling because of a company called Wintrack. This was the company that got a multimillion-peso contract from Piatco for "demolition and removal of subterranean structures."

In short, it was DIGGING.

Based on the Maso complaint, Alvarez was the main man behind Wintrack.

An employee of Wintrack executed an affidavit, saying the company overpriced its work done for Naia 3 by P76 million. Wow! That's a lot of money.

So much so that the employee, all of sudden, later recanted his sworn statement.

Subsequently, Alvarez claimed before the Ombudsman, through a counter-affidavit, that he had nothing to do with the Wintrack employee's recanting his statement that could virtually fry Alvarez.

***

AND that could have been the end of it!

The 37 or so respondents, including some German nationals who worked for Fraport, claimed that the contract was valid in the first place. As such, whatever its provision, it was enforceable.

Thus, the Ombudsman at that time, Aniano Desierto, "finding no evidence," dismissed the case. The petitioners then asked him for reconsideration. Again, Desierto found "lack of merit."

Because of the nature of its contract with the government, Piatco could never commit a crime of, say, establishing monopoly at the international airports, right?

Armed with a valid and enforceable contract, as the respondents argued, Piatco could then just eradicate the other businesses at the airport, right?

Wrong . Well, at least according to the Supreme Court!

BASICALLY, the Supreme Court said that the Ombudsman... well, "erred."

You see, another case forced the hand of the Supreme Court in the Maso case.

In May 2003, while Maso's case against the Ombudsman and those 37 or so individuals was pending, the Supreme Court made a ruling on another case involving the same project.

It declared that the contract - with all the amendments, plus the three vitamins, este, "supplements" - was null and void.

The new ruling handed down a few days ago even quoted portions of the May 2003 ruling.

For one, the members of Maso filed the case as taxpayers, whose rights and interests would be trampled upon by the Piatco contract.

All of them had existing businesses, covered with existing contracts with their customers on the one hand, and the government's airport authority, on the other.

The earlier May 2003 ruling stated that Piatco's contract over Naia 3 should never violate the rights of other people, such as the members of Maso.

Said the Supreme Court: "These contracts (those of Maso's members) must be respected."

***

AMONG those the Supreme Court ordered for investigation by the Office of the Ombudsman are, aside from Alvarez, former DOTC Secretary Vicente Rivera Jr., the officials of Manila International Airport Authority (such as Antonio Gana, Edgardo Manda, and Diosdado Acob), and the entire board of Piatco (such as Bernd Struck, Vic Cheng Yong, Jefferson Cheng, Jason Cheng, Alfred Johannes Arthus Vogel, Stephan Bauchspiess, Samin Aydin, and Hachiman Yokoi).

And so it's all up to the Ombudsman. But who will the new appointee be? That's for another column.

Delay seen in Calaca plant bidding

From page B1

placed on the auction block before end-2005 include the 660-MW Tiwi-Makban and 150-MW Bacon-Manito geothermal facilities and the decommissioned 54-MW Cebu II diesel plant and 104-MW Aplaya plant.

PSALM has so far sold six Napocor plants - five hydroelectric and one coal-fired. These are the 3.5-MW Talomo plant in Davao for $1.37 million, the 1.6-MW Agusan plant in Bukidnon for $1.53 million, the 1.8-MW Barit plant in Camarines Sur for $480,000, the 0.4-MW Cawayan plant in Sorsogon for $410,410, the 1.2 MW Loboc plant in Bohol for $1.42 million, and the 600-MW Masinloc coal-fired plant for $561.74 million

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of November 3, 2005)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	32	32.5	32	32	541,100
Bank of the Phil. Islands	55.5	56.5	55.5	56	1,420,100
China Banking Corp.	610	615	605	605	620
Citystate Savings Bank	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	500
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.59	0.65	0.59	0.65	9,520,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	49.5	49.5	49.5	49.5	268,700
International Exch. Bank	19.5	19.5	19.25	19.25	20,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	26.5	27.5	26.5	27	238,300
Philippine National Bank	30.5	31.5	30.5	31	253,800
Security Bank Corp.	30.5	31	30.5	31	213,800
Union Bank of the Phil.	29	29.5	29	29.5	64,200
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Manulife Financial Corp.	2835	2835	2830	2830	50
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1	1.02	1	1.02	144,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	2010	2020	2010	2020	710
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	13.75	14.5	13.75	14.5	82,500
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.93	0.93	0.91	0.91	3,090,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	725	735	725	725	42,310
Ipeople Inc.	2.6	2.65	2.6	2.65	102,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042	100,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.049	0.05	0.049	0.05	1,500,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	3.1	3.15	3.05	3.15	6,166,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1715	1745	1715	1740	197,720
Ivantage Corp.	0.58	0.59	0.58	0.59	1,600,000
Philweb Corp.	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.016	37,400,000
POWER, ENERGY & OTHER UTILITIES					
Manila Electric Co. A	13.5	14	13.5	14	28,600
Manila Electric Co. B	21	21.25	20.75	21.25	788,000
Manila Water Co. Inc.	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.5	17,313,000
Petron Corp.	3.65	3.7	3.6	3.7	7,441,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.95	0.98	0.95	0.98	60,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	9.8	9.9	9.8	9.9	709,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	300,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.56	0.61	0.56	0.61	4,340,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	3.65	3.85	3.65	3.75	1,895,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	13,500
Jollibee Foods Corp.	39.5	39.5	38.5	39	651,900
Pancake House Inc.	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	30,000
Swift Food Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	140,000
San Miguel Corp. A	64.5	65	64	65	45,500
San Miguel Corp. B	90	92	90	92	70,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	200,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	2,000,000
Ayala Corp.	305	310	305	310	482,980
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	50,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	4.95	5.1	4.95	5.1	1,010,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	1,000,000
A. Soriano Corp.	2.22	2.28	2.22	2.28	3,365,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	1,110,000
Baguio Gold Holdings Corp.	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	10,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.3	10,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.02	1.02	1	1	1,174,000
A Brown Company Inc.	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	460,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	200,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.26	4,440,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.2	1,728,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	300,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.08	1.12	1.08	1.12	843,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	43.5	44	43.5	44	892,700
Ionics Inc.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	38,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	3.95	3.95	3.85	3.85	153,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	10,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	500,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.42	1.46	1.42	1.44	12,554,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.25	800,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.34	0.35	0.33	0.34	39,030,000
Paxys Inc.	5	5	4.9	4.9	922,000
Philcomsat Holdings Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	70,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	10,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	151,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	90,000
SM Investments Corp.	240	243	239	241	429,850
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.125	0.13	0.125	0.13	4,540,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	40,000
Picop Resources Inc	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	2,600,000
Pryce Corp.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	500,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.92	0.93	0.92	0.92	820,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.8	0.81	0.8	0.8	120,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.4	1.42	1.4	1.42	275,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (PDR)	14	14.5	14	14.5	259,600
PLDT (10% Pref) Series M	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series N	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series O	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	2,200
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	2,600
PLDT 10% Pref Series AA	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	5,800
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	8.5	8.6	8.5	8.5	29,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	8.8	9	8.8	8.9	4,936,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.24	4,650,000
Cebu Prop. Vent B	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	10,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.4	0.4	0.39	0.4	8,310,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.38	1.38	1.36	1.36	3,924,000
Keppel Phils. Prop. Inc.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	10,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.2	0.205	0.2	0.2	3,330,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	370,000
Philippine Estates Corp.	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.105	200,000
SM Development Corp.	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	112,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	8.3	8.4	8.1	8.2	13,333,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	50,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	50,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	35,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	144,000
Benguet Corp. A	8	8	7.8	7.8	16,000
Benguet Corp. B	29	29	29	29	1,900
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.21	7,860,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.245	0.245	0.24	0.24	13,420,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	700,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	51,300,000
Omico Corp.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	242,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	1.04	1.08	1.04	1.08	2,341,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	1.28	1.3	1.26	1.3	5,369,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	25.5	26.5	25.5	26.5	45,400
OIL					
Interport Res. B	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	1,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	70,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	4.05	4.05	4	4	152,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	870,000

	SHARES	VALUE(P)
Bank & Fin Svc	12,685,680	141,177,375.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	167,338,360	964,104,905.00
PRO	39,185,000	164,514,210.00
Mining	358,297,300	19,367,700.00
OIL	2,092,000	754,750.00
SME	10,000	7,000.00
GRAND TOTALS :	579,608,340	1,289,925,940.00

AVERAGES		
Bank & Fin Svc	580.36	DOWN 1.33
Comm'l & Ind'l	3,193.71	UP 52.81
PRO	782.55	UP 4.48
Mining	2,482.55	DOWN 3.68
OIL	3.08	UNCH 0.00
SME	100.00	UNCH 0.00
All Shares Index	1,229.63	UP 10.86
Composite	2,031.70	UP 24.58

NO. OF ADVANCES: 50; NO. OF DECLINES: 27; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 39; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 116; NO. OF TRADES: 3,960

CURRENCIES

November 4, 2005 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.828500	1.000000	54.8010
Japan	Yen	0.007092	0.008560	0.4691
United Kingdom	Pound	1.472411	1.777200	97.3923
Hongkong	Dollar	0.106870	0.128992	7.0689
Switzerland	Franc	0.648026	0.782167	42.8635
Canada	Dollar	0.703371	0.848969	46.5244
Singapore	Dollar	0.489368	0.590667	32.3691
Australia	Dollar	0.613931	0.741015	40.6084
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.199306	2.654562	145.4727
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.220928	0.266660	14.6132
Brunei	Dollar	0.487927	0.588928	32.2738
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000083	0.000100	0.0055
Thailand	Baht	0.020297	0.024498	1.3425
UAE	Dirham	0.225577	0.272272	14.9208
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.207000	66.1448
Argentina	Peso	0.277090	0.334448	18.3281
Brazil	Real	0.369701	0.446229	24.4538
Denmark	Kroner	0.133977	0.161710	8.8619
India	Rupee	0.018338	0.022134	1.2130
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.219442	0.264866	14.5149
Mexico	New Peso	0.077214	0.093197	5.1073
New Zealand	Dollar	0.573754	0.692521	37.9508
Norway	Kroner	0.128316	0.154878	8.4875
Pakistan	Rupee	0.013894	0.016770	0.9190
South Africa	Rand	0.124766	0.150593	8.2526
Korea	Won	0.000797	0.000962	0.0527
Sweden	Kroner	0.103867	0.125368	6.8703
Syria	Pound	0.015960	0.019264	1.0557
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.024699	0.029812	1.6337
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000386	0.000386	0.0255

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THE SEA yields its bounties to Filipino fishermen. The Philippines is Taiwan's 12th largest source of tuna, crustaceans and mollusks.

RP to step up exports to Taiwan

By Ronnel W. Domingo

A TRADE MISSION IS SET TO LEAVE FOR Taiwan to persuade traders there to accept more marine products from the Philippines, according to the Manila Economic and Cultural Office.

Cynthia B. Ricafort, Meco trade representative, said Philippine marine products held a significant potential as export earnings increased by a quarter in the first half of 2005 to US$11.5 million or about P638 million.

According to Ricafort, the Philippines is Taiwan's 12th largest source of fresh, chilled and frozen fish, tuna, crustaceans, mollusks and other aquatic invertebrates.

It would be good policy, she said, if traders of marine products were to increase the share of total exports to Taiwan from a mere 1.23 percent.

Between 2004 and 2003, exports of fish and crustaceans to Taiwan jumped about 22 percent to $9.6 million from $7.9 million.

"Taiwan is smaller than Luzon and the island has only so much aquatic resources to support its population of 25 million," Ricafort said. "Philippine producers should take advantage of our proximity to Taiwan and export more."

Also, the government has asked the United States to allow the duty-free entry of Philippine carrageenan to the US market.

Commercial Counselor Romeo Borillo said he had filed a petition with the US Trade Representative to include carrageenan in its General System of Preferences.

A GSP is a program among developed countries to promote the economic development of poorer countries by accepting the produce of the latter with zero or lower-than-usual tariffs.

According to the Department of Trade and Industry, Philippine exports of carrageenan rose by 57 percent to $9.4 million in 2004 from $6 million in 2003.

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Asean expects mineral exports to triple to $15B

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE ECONOMIC BLOC OF THE ASSOCIATION of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) expects its mineral exports to triple to as much as $15 billion over the next three to five years as global demand for minerals continue to surge amid declining production.

In 2004, mineral exports stood at $5.5 billion.

"There is so much potential for mining companies in the region," said Benjamin Philip Romualdez, president of the Asean Mining Federation. "Global demand is growing at the rate of six percent annually, with much of the increase in metal prices attributed to the fast economic growth of China and India, which are sucking up materials from all over the world."

The federation is currently charting a mining roadmap that will boost the region's stature in the global mining landscape.

"Aside from China and India, there is also strong demand from Japan and Korea," Romualdez said in a statement. "This is happening amid strong indications of a decline in mineral production, especially from major sources such as South Africa, Chile, the United States, Australia and Canada."

Global mining revenues have been on an upsurge since 2001 as metal prices increased, resulting in total mining revenues of $110 billion in 2004.

Despite the uptick in metal prices, the Asean bloc has not been able to take full advantage of the favorable developments. Currently, its share of the mining revenues in the world market is only five percent or $5.5 billion, data from the Philippine Chamber of Mines showed.

Single Asian currency still a long way off

By Doris C. Dumlao

ASIAN ECONOMIES ARE MOVING TOwards a unified currency, but the region has a long way to go to replicate the economic union painstakingly built in Europe, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas chief said.

"It will require more than what has already been achieved today," BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. told reporters. "It needs greater convergence of policy and policy issues, economic and financial policies."

Tetangco said it took Europe 50 years to form its economic union. But he pointed out that the variance among countries there was not as wide as that apparent in Asia.

"Regional integration is progressing," Tetangco said. "It will increase trade and investments within the region, which has expanded from the Asean plus 3. These are positive developments."

The BSP chief said that while a uniform Asian currency was inevitable in the future, given the willingness among countries to intensify cooperation, it would take much more to reach that stage.

"Economic policies must respond to different developments like tragedy, financial changes, oil movements," Tetangco said. "It will require a lot of political will. It will require coordination of policies."

ADB president Haruhiko Kuroda recently urged Asian countries to revive efforts to adopt a single currency not only to foster greater regional trade but also to shield the region from an external financial shocks similar to the 1997 Asian financial crisis.

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ANGELES

LOT 1 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 446 sqm. F.A.: 119 sqm.
Lot 678-C McArthur H-way Balibago
Minimum Bid Price 6,132,000.00

APALIT

LOT 2 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 288 sqm. F.A.: 120 sqm.
Lot 3-D Brgy. Rd., No. 387 Brgy. Sampaloc
Minimum Bid Price 370,000.00

LOT 3 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 105 sqm.
Lot 1985-C-3-H-3 Public Market Pasilo, San Vicente
Minimum Bid Price 983,000.00

LOT 4 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 16,180 sqm.
Lot No. 1722 San Vicente
Minimum Bid Price 999,000.00

LOT 5 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 360 sqm.
Lot 19 & 21 Blk. 13 St Peter Subd., San Vicente
Minimum Bid Price 184,000.00

ARAYAT

LOT 6 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 341 sqm.
Lot 3056-A Brgy Bahl
Minimum Bid Price 97,000.00

LOT 7 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 370 sqm. F.A.: 145 sqm.
Lot 8 Brgy. Rd., Purok 11, Cacutud
Minimum Bid Price 829,000.00

LOT 8 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 600 sqm.
Lot 320 Brgy. Rd. No. 31 Purok 6, Brgy. Camba
Minimum Bid Price 189,000.00

LOT 9 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 3,244 sqm.
Lot 2036-E Magalang-Arayat Prov'L. Rd., Gahawin
Minimum Bid Price 993,000.00

LOT 10 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 743 sqm.
Lot 2284-J-1-C Brgy Gatiawin
Minimum Bid Price 253,000.00

BACOLOR

LOT 11 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 328 sqm.
Lot 8, Blk 11 Rd. Lot 1, Don Bosco Village, Brgy. Cabalantian
Minimum Bid Price 20,000.00

LOT 12 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 301 sqm.
Lot 3321-B-2 Brgy. Rd., Brgy. Macabacle
Minimum Bid Price 16,000.00

LOT 13 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 46 Blk 3 Rd. Lot 3 San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price 15,000.00

FLORIDA BLANCA

LOT 14 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 21.17 sqm.
Lot 87 Pabanlang
Minimum Bid Price 1,186,000.00

GUAGUA

LOT 15 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 515 sqm.
Lot 1473 & 1134, #9 Purok 6, Brgy. Natividad
Minimum Bid Price 65,000.00

LOT 16 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 1,907 sqm.
Lot 3-B Ascomo, Pulungmasle
Minimum Bid Price 201,000.00

LOT 17 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 250 sqm.
Lot 4-B, #214, Purok 4, Brgy. Ascomo, Pulungmasle
Minimum Bid Price 80,000.00

LOT 18 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 154 sqm.
Lot 14 Brgy. Rd., San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price 40,000.00

LOT 19 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 300 sqm.
Lot 1-D San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 174,000.00

LOT 20 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 241 sqm.
Lot 2-J Rd. Lot, Cerville Subd., Brgy. Sto. Niño & Sto. Cristo
Minimum Bid Price 45,000.00

LOT 21 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 731 sqm.
Lot 5-F Cervantes Subd. Sto. Niño
Minimum Bid Price 187,000.00

LOT 22 - VACANT LOT
WITHDRAWN

LOT 23 - VACANT LOT
WITHDRAWN

LOT 24 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,033 sqm.
Lot 5-P Cervantes Subd., Sto. Niño
Minimum Bid Price 264,000.00

LUBAO

LOT 25 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,392 sqm.
Lot 2-C & 2-E San Roque Arbol
Minimum Bid Price : 53,000.00

LOT 26 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-I-1 Rd. Lot 1-J San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 319,000.00

LOT 27 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-I-2 Rd. Lot 1-J San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 319,000.00

LOT 28 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-I-3 Rd. Lot 1-J San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 319,000.00

LOT 29 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-H-3, Rd. Lot 1-J, San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 319,000.00

LOT 30 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-H-2, Rd. Lot 1-J, San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 319,000.00

LOT 31 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-H-1, Rd. Lot 1-J, San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 319,000.00

LOT 32 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-I-4 Prov'L. Rd., San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 446,000.00

LOT 33 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 1,875 sqm. F.A.: 413 sqm.
Lot 5700 & 5701 Brgy. Rd., Brgy Sta. Lucia
Minimum Bid Price : 1,573,000.00

LOT 34 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 7,000 sqm.
Lot C-1 Brgy Sta Lucia & San Juan
Minimum Bid Price 16,000.00

MABALACAT

LOT 35 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 375 sqm.
Lot 32 Blk 36 Rizal St Dolores
Minimum Bid Price 90,000.00

MACABEBE

LOT 36 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 209 sqm. F.A.: 154 sqm.
Lot 927 Nat'L. Rd., Caduang Tete
Minimum Bid Price 422,000.00

LOT 37 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 538 sqm.
Lot 2593-T Access Rd., San Roque
Minimum Bid Price 69,000.00

MAGALANG

LOT 38 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 350 sqm. F.A.: 72 sqm.
Lot 2, #166 Purok 4, Brgy San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 196,000.00

LOT 39 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,785 sqm.
Lot 9-A Baltucan Rd. San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 1,040,000.00

LOT 40 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,177 sqm.
Lot 9-B Baltucan Rd. San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price : 813,000.00

LOT 41 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,171 sqm.
Lot 9-C Baltucan Rd. San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 811,000.00

LOT 42 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,164 sqm.
Lot 9-D Baltucan Rd. San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 808,000.00

LOT 43 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,254 sqm.
Lot 9-E Baltucan Rd. San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 842,000.00

LOT 44 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,172 sqm.
Lot 9-F Baltucan Rd. San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 811,000.00

LOT 45 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,190 sqm.
Lot 9-G Baltucan Rd. San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 818,000.00

LOT 46 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 12,059 sqm. F.A.: 1,486 sqm.
Lot 2 Brgy Rd., San Pablo
Minimum Bid Price : 2,247,000.00

LOT 47 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 226 sqm.
Lot 1, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 84,000.00

LOT 48 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 331 sqm.
Lot 2, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 93,000.00

LOT 49 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 3, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 50 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 4, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 51 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 5, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 52 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 53 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 68,000.00

LOT 54 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 8, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 55 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 9, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 56 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 10, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 20,000.00

LOT 57 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 11, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 24,000.00

LOT 58 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 12, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 24,000.00

LOT 59 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 433 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 1 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 260,000.00

LOT 60 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 368 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 1 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 221,000.00

LOT 61 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 303 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 1 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 182,000.00

LOT 62 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 368 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 221,000.00

LOT 63 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 249 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 150,000.00

LOT 64 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 253 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 152,000.00

LOT 65 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 257 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 155,000.00

LOT 66 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 261 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 157,000.00

LOT 67 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 265 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 159,000.00

LOT 68 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 270 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro Magalang
Minimum Bid Price 162,000.00

LOT 69 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 295 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 177,000.00

LOT 70 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 181 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 9 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 109,000.00

LOT 71 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 149 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 9 Pob San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 90,000.00

LOT 72 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 218 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 9 Pob San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 131,000.00

LOT 73 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 269 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 9 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 162,000.00

LOT 74 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 238 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 9 Pob San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 142,000.00

LOT 75 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 9 Pob. San Pedro Magalang
Minimum Bid Price : 144,000.00

LOT 76 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 155 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 9 Pob San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 93,000.00

LOT 77 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 218 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 9 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 131,000.00

LOT 78 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 149 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 9 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 90,000.00

LOT 79 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 183 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 52,000.00

LOT 80 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 147 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 42,000.00

LOT 81 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 185 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 52,000.00

LOT 82 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 148 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 42,000.00

LOT 83 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 183 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 52,000.00

LOT 84 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 304 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk. 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 86,000.00

LOT 85 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 236 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk. 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 86 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 87 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 88 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 89 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 90 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 280 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 21,000.00

LOT 91 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 355 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 27,000.00

LOT 92 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 206 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 16,000.00

LOT 93 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 338 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 26,000.00

LOT 94 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 95 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 96 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 97 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 236 sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 98 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 363 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 28,000.00

LOT 99 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 100 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 101 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 102 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 103 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk. 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 104 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk. 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 105 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk. 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 106 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk. 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 107 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk. 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 108 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 329 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk. 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 25,000.00

LOT 109 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 279 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk. 7 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 21,000.00

LOT 110 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 238 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk. 7 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 111 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 244 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk. 7 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 19,000.00

LOT 112 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 242 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk. 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 72,000.00

LOT 113 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 13, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 114 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 115 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 15 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 116 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 281 sqm.
Lot 16 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 22,000.00

LOT 117 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 197 sqm.
Lot 17 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 15,000.00

LOT 118 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 290 sqm.
Lot 18 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 22,000.00

LOT 119 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 19 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 120 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 20 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 121 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 21 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 122 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 22, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 123 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 23 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 124 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 24, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 125 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 25, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 126 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 26, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 127 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 27, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 128 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 28, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 129 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 29 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 130 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 30, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 131 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 306 sqm.
Lot 31, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 23,000.00

LOT 132 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 207 sqm.
Lot 32, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 16,000.00

MASANTOL

LOT 133 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 194 sqm.
Lot 735-B-13-1-5-6 Brgy Bebe-Anac
Minimum Bid Price 81,000.00

MEXICO

LOT 134 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 270 sqm.
Lot 1, Blk 9 Subd. Rd., San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price 152,000.00

LOT 135 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 270 sqm.
Lot 3, Blk 9 Subd. Rd., San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price 152,000.00

MINALIN

LOT 136-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 410 sqm. F.A.: 95 sqm.
Lot 10 No. 56 Capt. Feliciano St., Lourdes
Minimum Bid Price 203,000.00

LOT 137-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 345 sqm. F.A.: 251 sqm.
Lot No. 16 Caloocan St., Brgy. Lourdes
Minimum Bid Price 175,000.00

LOT 138-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 513 sqm. F.A.: 115 sqm.
Lot 295 Bonifo St., Lourdes
Minimum Bid Price 416,000.00

LOT 139-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 368 sqm.
Lot 1143 Brgy. Rd., Brgy. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 88,000.00

LOT 140 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 236 sqm.
Lot 25, Blk 17 Rd. Lot, Brgy. Sta. Rita
Minimum Bid Price 51,000.00

PORAC

LOT 141 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,486 sqm.
Lot 1115-B Brgy Mancatian
Minimum Bid Price 5,000.00

LOT 142 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,400 sqm.
Lot 6, Blk 4 Brgy. Manibaug-Pasig
Minimum Bid Price 64,000.00

LOT 143-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 300 sqm. F.A.: 100 sqm.
Lot 489-B-2-C-3 # 218 Purok 5 Brgy Palat
Minimum Bid Price 256,000.00

LOT 144-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 1,605 sqm.
Lot 1037 & Lot 1038-1 Gen. Luna St., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 1,313,000.00

LOT 145 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,013 sqm.
Lot 497-D-10 Brgy Sepung Bulaon
Minimum Bid Price 130,000.00

SAN FERNANDO

LOT 146 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 431 sqm.
Lot 4177-A-9-E Purok 3, Brgy. Dola Paz Norte
Minimum Bid Price 81,000.00

LOT 147-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 341 sqm. F.A.: 80 sqm.
Lot 4160-A Brgy Sagun
Minimum Bid Price 70,000.00

LOT 148 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 1,675 sqm.
Lot 9-E Corazon St., Brgy. San Agustin
Minimum Bid Price 588,884.09

LOT 149 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 496 sqm.
Lot 3-A-9 San Agustin
Minimum Bid Price 338,000.00

LOT 150 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 200 sqm.
Lot 10, Blk 17 Bel-Air And Sta Monica Subds., San Felipe & San Nicolas
Minimum Bid Price 57,000.00

LOT 151 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 200 sqm.
Lot 11, Blk 17 Bel-Air And Sta. Monica Subds., San Felipe & San Nicolas
Minimum Bid Price 57,000.00

LOT 152 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 375 sqm.
Lot28 Blk 1 Rd. Lot 2, San Jose Village, Brgy. San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 64,000.00

LOT 153-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 191 sqm. F.A.: 252 sqm.
Lot 29-B, #531 Purok 1, San Jose Panduan
Minimum Bid Price 897,000.00

LOT 154-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 300 sqm. F.A.: 110 sqm.
Lot 21 Blk 4 Genesis St. Olivas Subd., San Nicolas
Minimum Bid Price 266,084.46

LOT 155 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 351 sqm.
Lot 20, Blk 10 Rd. Lot 7, Olivas Subd., San Nicolas
Minimum Bid Price 100,000.00

LOT 156-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 363 sqm.
Lot 8, Blk 5 Brgy. Rd., Purok 10 Sta. Lucia
Minimum Bid Price : 108,000.00

LOT 157-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 379 sqm.
Lot 15, Blk 6 Rd. Lot 2, Aurea Subd. Sta. Lucia
Minimum Bid Price 97,000.00

SAN LUIS

LOT 158 LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 2,395 sqm. F.A.: 95 sqm.
Lot 2318-C Brgy. Rd., # 326 San Juan
Minimum Bid Price : 143,000.00

LOT 159 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 20,446 sqm.
Lot 2213-F San Juan
Minimum Bid Price 384,000.00

LOT 160-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 232 sqm. F.A.: 123 sqm.
Lot 5-A-4 Brgy. Rd., # 2591 San Roque
Minimum Bid Price 65,000.00

LOT 161-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 506 sqm.
Lot 22 Brgy Rd., Brgy San Roque
Minimum Bid Price 41,000.00

SAN SIMON

LOT 162-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 78 sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 1 Rd. Lot 1, Brgy. Concepcion
Minimum Bid Price : 50,000.00

LOT 163 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 654 sqm.
Lot 3310 Concepcion
Minimum Bid Price : 151,000.00

LOT 164-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 893 sqm.
Lot 2 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price : 416,000.00

LOT 165-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 273 sqm.
Lot 4 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price : 59,000.00

LOT 166-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 773 sqm. F.A.: 140 sqm.
Lot No. 1523 Municipal Rd Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 484,000.00

LOT 167-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 566 sqm. F.A.: 70 sqm.
Lot 1342 Prov'L. Rd., San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 200,000.00

STA. ANA

LOT 168-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 263 sqm. F.A.: 170 sqm.
Lot 17 & 19, Blk 2 Rd. Lot, Alivello Heights, San Juan
Minimum Bid Price 1,002,000.00

STO. TOMAS

LOT 169-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 271 sqm. F.A.: 98 sqm.
Lot 15 Interior, Balangcas
Minimum Bid Price 139,000.00

LOT 170-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 300 sqm.
Lot 14, Blk 23 Subd. Rd., Balangcas
Minimum Bid Price 84,000.00

LOT 171 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 400 sqm.
Lot 6, Blk 4 Brgy. Rd., Moraz Dola Paz
Minimum Bid Price 272,000.00

LOT 172 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 707 sqm.
Lot 1762-B-1 Bo. Dalaquilan, San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 453,000.00

LOT 173-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 384 sqm. F.A.: 144 sqm.
Lot 17 & 19, Blk 3, Subd. Rd., Countrysquare Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 508,000.00

LOT 174-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 12,185 sqm. F.A.: 913 sqm.
Lot 1, 2 & 1784-C-2-A Prov'L. Rd., Brgy. San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 3,264,000.00

LOT 175-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 283 sqm. F.A.: 72 sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 8 Rd. Lot 1, Paraiso Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 259,563.64

LOT 176-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 600 sqm. F.A.: 557 sqm.
Lots 28 & 29, Blk 1 Rd. Lot 1 Paraiso Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 257,000.00

LOT 177-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 300 sqm. F.A.: 164 sqm.
Lot 36 Blk 1 Subd. Rd., Paraiso Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price : 425,000.00

LOT 178-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 255 sqm. F.A.: 60 sqm.
Lot 1, Brgy Rd., Twaño Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 503,751.39

LOT 179 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 440 sqm.
Lot 4, Blk 23 Subd. Rd., Balangcas, San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 113,000.00

LOT 180 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 192 sqm.
Lot 14, Blk 3 Subd. Rd., Coury Square Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

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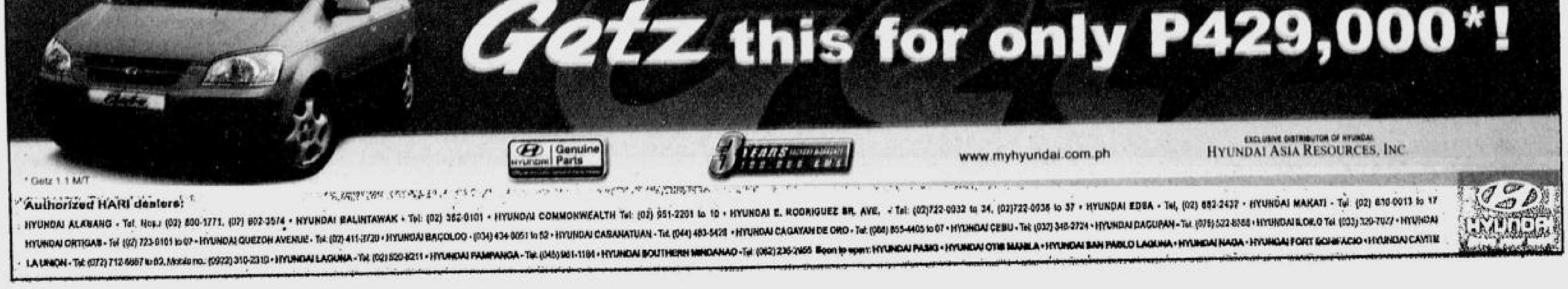
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SCIENCE/HEALTH

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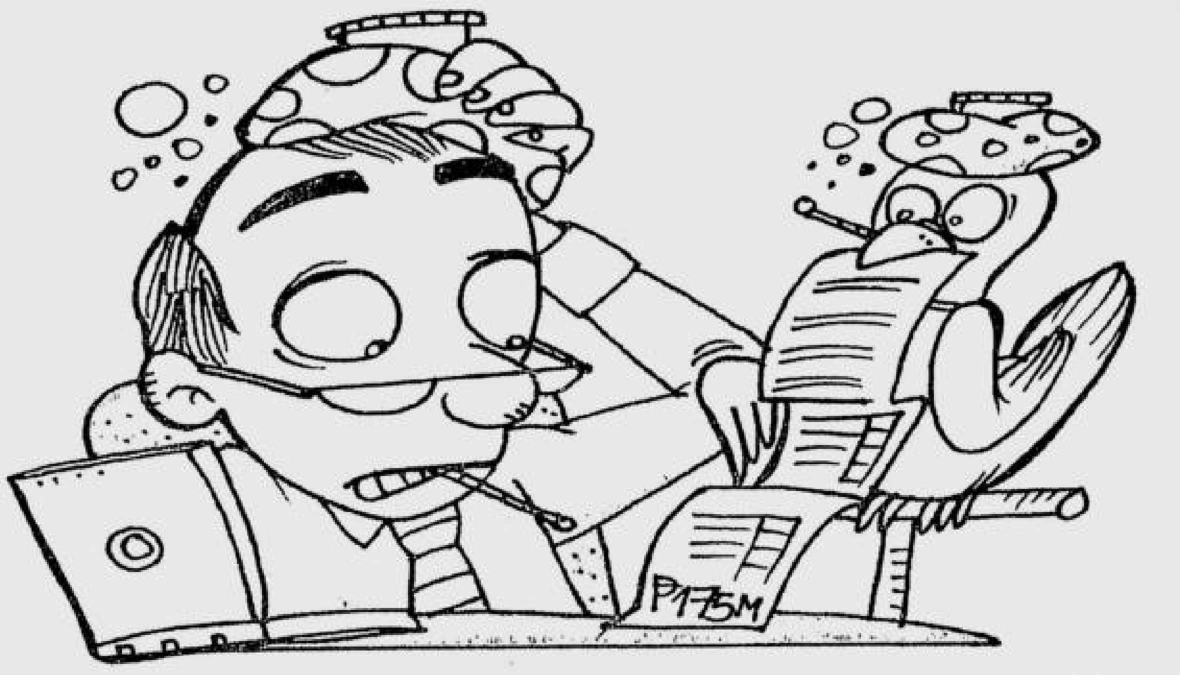
Business urged to plan for bird flu pandemic

By Tessa R. Salazar



THE DEPARTMENT of Health has pegged its budgetary requirements for its avian flu operations at P175 million.

Dr. Luningning Villa, program manager for emerging infectious diseases, however said this figure could change depending on the actual condition of the avian flu virus when it arrives in the country, on how the virus would behave and how transmission to humans would be averted.

Villa said the government is preparing to mitigate the effects of a possible outbreak on public health, but it also recognizes the role of the private sector in the event of a pandemic.

Forum for businessmen

Last Oct. 27, about 300 people from various business organizations attended a forum on public health measures and business contingency planning for a possible flu pandemic.

The forum, organized by the Makati Business Club, the Corporate Network for Disaster Response, the Philippine Business for Social Progress, and the American Chamber of Commerce Foundation, briefed the business sector about the government's preparedness plan for what has been considered an unavoidable pandemic and disseminated information on how to prevent bird flu infection.

Dr. Kenneth Hartigan Go, president of the Corporate Network for Disaster Response, said the continued operations of key services and the availability of essential products in the event of a full-blown pandemic are critical to society.

"Operations should continue, particularly [those of] essential agencies such as food manufacturing, public transport, electricity, telecommunications and media. Otherwise, there's going to be chaos," he said.

Concerns discussed during the forum included the depletion of manpower in the event of a pandemic, transportation logistics in the event of a transport paralysis, alternative sources of essential products, and protecting workers' health in the workplace.

"Companies have to look out for the welfare of workers and their families. They cannot just shut down. Some people have to work daily just to have money for food," he said.

Spice, herbal tea key players in bird flu battle

AS THINGS APPEAR BLEAK IN the bird flu pandemic threat, trust people to turn to traditional remedies.

In Hong Kong, the Health Department has advised the public to drink more Chinese herbal tea and soup to protect themselves against getting the flu.

Some of the ingredients for making the five recommended herbal concoctions are ginger, mulberry leaves, mint and dried chrysanthemum.

Last month, Hong Kong health authorities mobilized Chinese medicine practitioners in the fight against bird flu by distributing a guide to preventing and treating influenza with Chinese herbal medicines.

According to the pamphlets, the herbal drinks could help build up immunity and adjust the balance of "yin" (cold) and "yang" (hot) forces in the human body. People get sick when the forces get out of balance.

Chinese spice

In another development, the Chinese spice star anise has suddenly assumed key medical significance.

It has an ingredient vital to a drug that fights the strain of avian flu that has already killed more than 60 people in Asia. Harvested in China and Vietnam and used as a spice, it provides flavoring for candies, pastis drinks and tobacco.

But it also has a key pharmaceutical asset—shikimic acid, which is described by experts as the world's only weapon against bird flu.

Star anise, the dried, star-shaped multiple fruit of a small oriental tree which is a member of the magnolia family, is a traditional ingredient of oriental cuisine with its pungent, licorice-like flavor.

It also serves as the main flavoring of the liqueurs Pernod and Anisette.

Its medical significance had already been noted before bird flu arrived, including potential cancer-fighting properties.

Now it has sprung to new prominence as a chief source of shikimic acid, a vital ingredient of Tamiflu, one of the rare antiviral drugs that have proven effective against the lethal H5N1 strain of bird flu.

But shikimic acid does not come cheap. The price varies between $200 and $250 per kilogram. For extra pure quality, the price soars to as high as $500 a gram.

Every year 30,000 tons of star anise are used across the world for recipes for Vietnamese soup and pork Chinese-style. *AP, AFP*

Twentysomethings in Science

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

(Conclusion)

LAST WEEK WE LOOKED AT four promising twentysomething scientists (Joy Reyes, Jelda Miranda, Henry Perdigon, Arjay de Jesus) working in various institutes in projects supported by the Philippine Council for Advanced Science and Technology Research and Development (PCASTRD). We discussed their work, their joy of discovery and their achievements.

How did they become scientists? They cited supportive families, childhood interests, inspiring mentors.

From Joy: "I'm not a nerd, but reading became a hobby. I read a lot of science books."

From Arjay: "My parents influenced me to become a scientist. They are not in the natural sciences but their constant support spurred me to follow my interests."

From Jelda, whose interests range from dinosaurs, cells and microscopy to extraterrestrials, astronomy and geology, and now finally, to physics: "I think of the taxpayers who paid for my education. I have resolved in my mind never to disappoint them."

From Henry, who wanted to be a pilot, a doctor, a singer, and finally, a scientist: "Dr. Corazon De Ungria inspires me and has greatly influenced me. But above all, the Lord is my source of inspiration."

Expensive research

These scientists, however young, already recognize the difficulties of their chosen profession. One is funding. Arjay says: "Young scientists are often idealistic and want to do a lot of things. But they are saddled by the fact that science research can be expensive and that the country cannot at this moment satisfy the demands of all our research needs. So we have to be more creative in designing our projects."

Joy concurs, "I admire Filipino scientists. But it seems that we are not growing because the government does not give attention to developing science. There should be enough funds so that we will no longer import products but produce our own. If we can just use our natural resources as raw materials in making high-value products, our country may prosper."

Another is the lack of opportunity. Henry says, "Because scientists cannot find permanent positions in government and private companies, the young ones leave the country. The sad thing is that they find other professions completely unrelated to their expertise back home. They should have been tapped and developed to contribute to national development."

Jelda says, "I am one of the few lucky ones who had the opportunity to work with established scientists. But I am not sure if there are others who would willingly pass on their knowledge to the younger ones."

What can be done? Arjay talks about integrating science into our culture, especially by making science accessible to everyone.

He tells scientists, "We should continue to tear down our ivory towers so people will see and appreciate our work as an integral part of our life as a nation. That is why it is heartening to see our local TV programs tackle science and math. We should intensify our efforts in popularizing science."

I acknowledge the article of MediaCore member Framelia Anonas, from whose report "Young scientists: thrills, throes and thoughts" I drew excerpts for this article.

PATIENTS desperately seeking cures for deadly and debilitating diseases line up to register for treatment at the Seoul National University Hospital. KOREA HERALD/ASIA NEWS NETWORK

Patients swamp SoKor stem cell bank

SEOUL—SOUTH KOREA'S NEW stem cell bank said last Wednesday it would never turn away patients despite being overwhelmed by appeals for treatment from sufferers of incurable diseases.

The state-financed World Stem Cell Hub began taking registrations last Tuesday and by Wednesday, the website and telephone lines were overwhelmed.

"As of this afternoon, we have received 9,500 applications, which are beyond our capacity," said spokesperson Lim Jong-Pil. "We have only half a dozen people handling registration and they are working day and night."

He said the center was considering increasing its administrative staff.

"We will never lock the door on patients," he added.

The bank is the world's first facility to store embryonic stem cells designed to treat conditions considered incurable by traditional medical means such as nervous system failures, diabetes, Parkinson's disease, glaucoma and hearing disorders.

Replacement cells

Stem cells are nascent cells that can develop into replacement cells that researchers believe could help treat damaged organs and illnesses.

The center has restricted its treatment to Parkinson's and spinal injuries to reduce the flood of potential patients.

The bank is run by South Korean scientist Hwang Woo-Suk, who has pioneered embryonic stem cell research. The center announced in early 2004 it had cloned for the first time human embryos.

Based on Hwang's research, South Korea hopes to establish a global network on promoting stem cell research.

From the thousands of applications flooding in, Hwang's team hopes to select about 100 possible patients for one-on-one consultations with doctors. They will first be asked to undergo procedures to remove samples of somatic cells from the skin around their navel.

But the center cautioned that removing the somatic cells does not mean that tests will be conducted to find possible cures, since any work using the extracted samples will be for basic research purposes.

"Don't expect too much... Our initial goal is to take somatic cells for our research," Yoon Byung-Woo, a nerve cell expert in charge of registration, told Yonhap news agency. *AFP*

Ethics and ES cells

DISCOVER

Massie Santos Ballon

STEM CELLS ARE TOTIPOTENT cells that have the capability to develop into any cell in the human body. They can also be cultured indefinitely in the lab, and so could theoretically provide unlimited cell lines for research use. The single biggest objection to stem cells, however, is their source.

Human embryonic stem cells (ES cells) are harvested either from discarded fertilized embryos to which putative parents have waived their rights (often donated from fertility clinics) or from human embryos created in the lab.

Still, the fact remains that when the ES cells are removed from the inner cell mass of the blastocyst, the embryo is irrevocably damaged and does not survive.

With this in mind, the hope ES cells provide for treating a number of disease is tainted by the ethical questions their use raises.

Immoral

In August 2000, the Pontifical Academy for Life, a division of the Roman Curia, took a stand on the use of ES cells, asking if it were "morally licit to produce and/or use living human embryos for the preparation of ES cells," and answering in the negative.

Believing that human life begins at conception, it said that uniting sperm and egg to form a blastocyst that will be irrevocably damaged in order to retrieve the ES cells denies the embryo its right to life.

Using adult stem cells, therefore, is a more "reasonable and human method" of helping millions of people.

But the problem with adult cells is that they are pluripotent and can only develop into most, but not all, tissues.

New methods

Now, two researchers in Massachusetts have each developed a means of procuring ES cells without affecting the viability of the embryo itself. Their proposals appeared in the Oct. 16 issue of the journal Nature.

Working on mice, researchers led by medical director Robert Lanza of the Advanced Cell Technology (ACT) found a way to extract ES cells earlier in the embryo's development.

Instead of waiting until the embryo has formed into a 100-cell blastocyst, Lanza et al. extracted a single cell from an eight-cell embryo known as a morula. They then took the single cell, called a blastomere, and surrounded it with preexisting ES cells so that it, too, would multiply and divide into ES cells.

In the meantime, the seven-cell embryos were implanted into surrogate mother mice and allowed to develop to term. When compared with the control group of eight-cell morulas that were also implanted into surrogate mothers, Lanza et al. found that the birth rates were similar.

More problematic

At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, biologist Rudolf Jaenisch worked with mice to develop an alternate technique for harvesting ES cells that may actually be more ethically problematic.

Altered nuclear transfer involves removing the nucleus of a somatic donor cell and infecting the latter with a virus to inhibit Cdx2, a gene that plays an essential role in the formation of the placenta.

The cell is then merged with an egg to create Cdx2-deficient blastocysts that could generate ES cells without developing into viable embryos that can be implanted in a uterus.

"The ability to generate human ES cells without the destruction of ex utero embryos would reduce or eliminate the ethical concerns of many," Lanza et al. write in their paper.

More work needed

Both Lanza and Jaenisch caution that further research involving other mammalian species is required to determine if the procedures they outlined would work with humans.

Scientists have long believed that by using stem cells they can significantly improve humanity's quality of life by leading to treatments for diseases like cancer and diabetes, helping the paralyzed walk, ending donor organ rejection, and even regenerating diseased organs.

Studies over the last few years have even verified some of these claims in various animal models. For some people however, the benefits of the research are far outweighed by the cost.

E-mail the author at massie@massie.com.

Helping the poor make informed health choices

By Charles E. Buban

PEOPLE WITH POOR HEALTH LITERACY are unlikely to practice preventive measures that could have helped reduce their chances of getting sick and better manage their illness, averting costly hospital confinement.

"An individual's ability to understand and make informed decisions about his health is a frequently ignored problem. If that person cannot comprehend needed health information, attempts to improve the quality of care and reduce health care costs may fail," said Gerry Bacarro, president and country manager of Pfizer Philippines.

Pfizer recently partnered with the Department of Health, the Manila City government and the organization Gawad Kalusugan in implementing a community health development program that sought to raise health literacy and improve health outcomes in Barangay Baseco in Tondo, Manila where some 800 urban poor families live. The program is called Gawad Kalusugan-Pfizer.

"We expect that whatever success we achieve here will serve as a blueprint for other Gawad Kalusugan sites in the country. We will prepare a comprehensive documentation, monitoring and evaluation report," said Bacarro.

Pfizer Philippines Foundation has tapped the University of the Phillipines College of Public Health to provide Baseco community healthcare volunteers, neighborhood associations and local health unit staff capacity enhancement workshops aimed at providing basic knowledge, attitudes and skills to build and strengthen the delivery of healthcare systems in communities.

Successful Gawad Kalusugan health team members will be conferred a master's degree in public health.

Other programs, too

The foundation will also assist Gawad Kalusugan in its other programs like the adult antituberculosis and children's immunization drive, provision of safe water supply to eradicate water-borne diseases, community-managed child nutrition development program, and facilitation of Philhealth coverage to all families.

"Community members must assume new roles in seeking information and monitoring their own health, and making decisions about insurance and options for care. This self-management is essential to successful care of chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension," said Bacarro.

Gawad Kalusugan is an organization under Gawad Kalinga, a movement seeking to uplift the condition of the country's urban poor communities by providing housing, livelihood and access to health services.

This is not the first time Pfizer is helping community leaders and its members become self-reliant. Three years ago, the foundation, funded by an $800,000 grant from its mother firm in New York and in partnership with the DOH and the Ateneo Graduate School of Business, established the Leaders for Health Program (LHP) in various parts of the country.

"With the knowledge we acquired from the LHP, the foundation now expands its advocacy and vision of improving the quality of healthcare, this time; in urban poor communities," said Bacarro.

Macabre science exhibit

By Rafael R. Castillo, MD

MEDICAL FILES

WE RECENTLY HAD THE CHANCE TO VIEW the controversial "Bodyworks Exhibit" consisting of well-preserved human sculptures, which are actually cadavers preserved through a process called plastination.

Around 20 full-body cadavers and dozens of body parts that were part of the exhibit were flown to Toronto from Germany. It's not the type of "art" you would like to see just before lunch.

The "artist," anatomist Gunther von Hagens, has given new meaning to the term "culture of death." Imagine a man seated before a chess board, as if thinking of his next move, with his brain exposed; another human chopped up and vertically expanded so his body resembles a totem pole; a male cadaver holding his skin aloft as though it was a precious trophy; a skinned man astride a horse, holding his brain in his right hand, the horse's in his left; and perhaps the most shocking of all, a pregnant woman whose abdomen is peeled back to reveal an 8-month fetus inside.

Von Hagens is a scientist who believes he is "sculpting" human bodies to reveal the beauty and the complexity of the muscles, the veins, the vital organs and then offer the "frozen-in-time" specimens to the arms of eternity. Many have praised his genius, but an equal number think it's utterly disgusting.

"This is a freak show. Can't they keep the cadavers in the morgue where they belong?" I overheard someone telling his companion during the exhibit.

Intact for years

Plastination, which was perfected by Von Hagens, can be used to keep cadavers intact for many thousands of years. It consists of many stages, starting with the corpse being immersed in cooled liquid to displace the body's water and fat. Epoxy and a polymer preparation are infused to replace the body fluids and the "marinated" cadaver is gradually hardened under ultraviolet light.

Von Hagens established the Institute of Plastination in Heidelberg, Germany, and the process has been reportedly adopted by more than 250 institutes in 38 countries as a revolutionary body-preserving technique.

Von Hagens' exhibit has been viewed by hundreds of thousands, raising millions of dollars for its promoters. It has been brought to Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Japan and Toronto.

It has received mixed reviews. The view of the plastinated bodies help people feel more positively about themselves, according to one published comment. It's modern Frankenstein, says another, and the method exploits dead bodies for shock value.

In Berlin, the Catholic Church had protested vigorously and local priests held a requiem mass for the dead on display during the opening day of the exhibit.

Da Vinci?

Von Hagens says he transforms the cadavers into "objects of enlightenment" preserved as odorless, nondecaying corpses or human body parts. He compares himself to Leonardo da Vinci, who studied cadavers to better understand the human body.

He thinks he's helping his dead subjects and he's just accommodating their request to be preserved in eternity. He has plastinated close to 200 bodies and all of them have given consent or signed release forms indicating their wish to be plastinated.

One woman was said to have written: "The thought that after my death I could be part of a museum is comforting and fascinat[ing]. What a shame that I'll never discover how my dead body will be used."

Many critics do not accept the authenticity of these "consent" forms. Some speculate that these unsuspecting souls signed a release form, donating their bodies to science. Here lies the ethical concern: where does one draw the line between using human remains for scientific purposes and exploiting them for "art's sake"?

Von Hagens' brand of science or art reduces cadavers to mere objects, like pieces of scrap assembled and varnished into a glistening sculpture. It can be amusing to those with a ghoulish appetite, but to many, this modern technology denigrates not only the human body but life itself.

AUF-Medical Center opens modern hemodialysis center

THE ANGELES UNIVERSITY Foundation Medical Center (AUF-MC) recently opened its upgraded Hemodialysis Center, one of the most modern in Pampanga.

The center is a joint project of the AUF-MC and Fresenius Medical Care, which provided the high-end equipment for the center and the National Kidney Institute. It now boasts of state-of-the-art dialysis units and a reverse osmosis water processor.

The center is spacious, housing 10 patients at a time, with a lounge/waiting area for their guests.

The patients are treated in a cozy environment, with walls in chic colors, stylish lazyboys, and TV-viewing amenities, said AUF-MC vice president for medical affairs and medical director Dr. Ma. Lourdes G. Lagunilla.

New team

Anticipating a growing number of patients, the center has also created a team headed by Dr. Rene A. Molina to attend to patients.

The team includes Doctors Romulo G. Ignacio, Emely L. Pasumbal, Eden B. Castillo and Marizel M. Catungal, as well as visiting medical staff Doctors Mary Lynn T. Due, and Ismael G. Ramos. Also included are seven staff nurses exclusive for the department.

WEAP, DENR seminar

THE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASsociation of the Philippines (WEAP), in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-National Capital Region, will conduct a "Basic Training Course for New Pollution Control Officers" on Nov. 15-18 at the Quezon City Sports Club, E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City.

The technical seminar will orient PCOs on various environmental laws, with their corresponding rules and regulations, Environmental Management Bureau policies and programs, and duties and responsibilities of PCOs.

The seminar is a requirement for accreditation of PCOs by the DENR-EMP-NCR.

For details call Joy Macasaya at 371-9790 or 410-1119, or Blesilda Macasero or Eufracio Quajano at 781-0483, 781-0497 or 781-0471.

November is proclaimed as the **TRADITIONAL & ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE MONTH**
by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo under RA 698

PCAM 1995

4th National Conference on Alternative & Natural Medicine
Theme: The Power of Natural Healing
Subic International Hotel - November 13-16, 2005
Iloilo City Amigo Terrace Hotel - November 20-23, 2005
Davao City Grand Men Seng Hotel - November 29-December 2, 2005

World Pranic Healing Foundation, Inc.

Check-in: the day before
Check-out: the day after
Onsite Registration at check-in
Subic – November 12
Iloilo – November 19
Davao – November 28

SUBIC 1st Day - November 13
Master of Ceremony: Fe Jocelyn G. Merced, MD

7:00 AM	*Registration*
8:00 AM	*Opening of Exhibits* *Ribbon Cutting by:* SBMA Chairman Feliciano G. Salonga Sec. Francisco T. Duque III, MD Department of Health
9:30 AM	*National Anthem* *Invocation* *Welcome Remarks* Jaime E. Dy-Liacco PITAHC Director-General *Keynote Speech* Sec. Francisco T. Duque III, MD Department of Health

PLENARY LECTURES

10:00 AM	*Reversing AIDS and Cancer with Electrotherapy and Other Natural Remedies* Noel R. Campbell, PhD **from Australia**
10:45 AM	*How to Use Muscle Testing in Curing Diseases* James R. Overman, ND **from U.S.A**
11:30 AM	*Using Blood Root Salve to Remove Cancerous Tumors* Kelly Raber **from U.S.A**
12:00 NN	**LUNCH BREAK & EXHIBIT VIEWING**
2:00 PM	*"I Brought My Son from the U.S.A to the Philippines for His Cancer Cure"* William Humphrey **from U.S.A**
2:30 PM	*The First Ever Clinical Studies Done on Cures with Virgin Coconut Oil* Vermen Verallo-Rowell, MD
3:00 PM	*Curing TB Naturally with the Bio-Zapper in 1 Month, without Antibiotics* Samuel P. Dizon, MD
3:30 PM	**SNACK BREAK**
3:45 PM	*Basic Qi Gong Exercise* Mariano C. Teng, AMP
4:00 PM	*Bypassing Spinal Column Surgeries with Chiropractic* Martin G. Camara, DC
4:30 PM	*Removing Pain in 15 Seconds without Using Drugs* Christian Emmanuel V. Mancao, MD
5:00 PM	*Exhibit Viewing*
6:00 PM	*Dinner & Fellowship Night* (Guest Entertainer: Richard Merck) *Master of Ceremony* Lemuel M.Tocjayao, MD

SUBIC 2nd Day - November 14
Master of Ceremony: Fe Jocelyn G. Merced, MD
PLENARY LECTURES

8:00 AM	**How to Cure Ailments with Pranic Healing** Alessandra Grassi Salles, MD **from Brazil**
8:40 AM	**Curing Diabetes Naturally** Lemuel M. Tocjayao, MD
9:10 AM	**How Accurate is Iridology?** Elizabeth A. Micaller, ND
9:40 AM	**Removing Goiters and Gallstones without Drugs or Surgery** Jaime E. Dy-Liacco
10:00 AM	**SNACK BREAK**
10:15 AM	*Natural Remedies for Diseases Caused by Environmental Toxins* Edna S. Lao, MD
10:45 AM	*200 Heart Bypasses Avoided with Chelation* Rosario R. Austria, MD
11:15 AM	*Dissolving Kidney Stones with Sambong, Stopping Asthma with Lagundi* Othello V. Enoveso, MD
11:45 AM	*Reversing Aging Video Presentation*
12:00 NN	**LUNCH BREAK & EXHIBIT VIEWING**
2:00 PM	*Self Healing Through Visualization* Jaime T. Licauco
2:30 PM	*Tests on the Use of the Bio-Zapper to Cure Dengue*
3:00 PM	**SNACK BREAK**
3:15 PM	*Intermediate Qi Gong Exercise* Mariano C. Teng, AMP
3:30 PM	*Why Virgin Coconut Oil is Superior to All Other Oils* Conrado S. Dayrit, MD
4:00 PM	**OPEN FORUM**
5:00 PM	*Results of Election* *Closing Remarks* Carmencita R. Yap, MD PCAM President
6:30 PM	*Dinner & Awards Night*

SUBIC 3rd & 4th Days - November 15 & 16
Master of Ceremony: Jaime E. Dy-Liacco
WORKSHOP
How to Use Muscle Testing in Your Practice
Dr. James Overman, ND, from the U.S.A

For Registration and Details of the Schedule please contact

PCAM Secretariat (*Ms. Edna Santos*)
#2 Panay Avenue, Quezon City
Tel#: 373-2141/411-8450/ Tfax#: 371-9855
Email Add: pcam95@yahoo.com

For Pranic Healing Inquiries, contact: Ms. Lirio Ortiz
2210 Medical Plaza Ortigas, 26 San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas
Tels: (632)365-9732-34/Fax#: (632)687-4726
E-mail:wphf@iconn.com.ph

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines will receive sealed bids on November 17, 2005, 2:00 p.m., 12th Floor, Suite 4, of the DBP Head Office, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City for the following properties on CASH BASIS:

CODE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM SELLING PRICE
REAL ESTATE METRO MANILA			
AMD-ML-153	Sitio Pasong Bailie, Bo. Pamplona, Las Pinas City	236 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-75802)	P 409,800.00
AMD-ML-154	Anonas St. Sta. Mesa Manila	300.2 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-245737)	P 2,521,700.00
AMD-ML-155	Andora St., cor Jackson St. Vista Verde Subd. Bo. Llano, Caloocan City	276 m^2 residential lot (TCT No C- 348039)	P 530,500.00
AMD-ML-156	Andora St., cor Jackson St. Vista Verde Subd. Bo. Llano, Caloocan City	190 m^2 residential lot (TCT No C- 348031)	P 341,800.00
AMD-ML-157	Andora St., cor Jackson St. Vista Verde Subd. Bo. Llano, Caloocan City	190 m^2 residential lot (TCT No C- 348033)	P 341,800.00
AMD-PI-158	Suter St., Sta. Ana, Mla	124 m^2 residential lot (TCT No. T-240282)	P 520,800.00
COT-2	Pajo St., Quirino District	198.40 m^2 residential lot (TCT NO. N-278855) w/ bldg & imp.	P 3,077,800.00
CRA-13a	Don Pedro Reyes St., Victoria Homes, Bo. Tunasan, Muntinlupa City	525 m^2 residential/industrial lot (TCT No. 3273)	P 1,365,000.00
CRA-13b	Don Pedro Reyes St., Victoria Homes, Bo. Tunasan, Muntinlupa City	525 m^2 residential/industrial lot (TCT No. 3271)	P 1,365,000.00
CWB-6a	Tugatog St., (696 C. Molina St.), Veinte Reales, Valenzuela City	1,000 m^2 residential/industrial lot (TCT No. V-57731) w/ bldgs & imp.	P 3,341,100.00
CWB-6b	Tugatog St., (C. Molina St.), Veinte Reales, Valenzuela City	375 m^2 residential/industrial lot (TCT No. V-57732) w/ bldg & imp.	P 1,395,400.00
AMD-MC-159	Alpino Street, Marville Subd., Parañaque City	307.35 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T- 161167) w/ bldg & imp.	P 2,945,200.00
AMD-JA-160	Gov. A. Santos Street, B.F Homes, Parañaque City	354 m^2 residental lot (TCT No 60797) w/ bldg & imp.	P 2,689,000.00
AMD-MC-161	Evangelista Street, Project 4, Quezon City.	304.4 m^2 residental lot (TCT Nos N- 268684) w/ apartment bldg.	P 2,663,600.00
BATAAN			
	Sta. Monica Homes, Sitio Wiswis, Camaya, Mariveles	Residential lots w/ bldg. & imp.	
AMD-ED-162	Lot 4 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229502)	95,100.00
AMD-ED-163	Lot 7 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229501)	129,300.00
AMD-ED-164	Lot 8 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229500)	123,000.00
AMD-ED-165	Lot 6 Blk. 8	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229499)	95,100.00
AMD-ED-166	Lot 22 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229498)	89,100.00
AMD-ED-167	Lot 15 Blk. 32	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229495)	145,000.00
AMD-ED-168	Lot 18 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229497)	146,100.00
AMD-ED-169	Lot 7 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229491)	120,000.00
AMD-ED-170	Lot 49 Blk. 8	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229493)	95,100.00
AMD-ED-171	Lot 45 Blk. 8	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229490)	162,800.00
AMD-ED-172	Lot 11 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229486)	126,000.00
AMD-ED-173	Lot 5 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229484)	121,000.00
AMD-ED-174	Lot 3 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229485)	116,300.00
AMD-ED-175	Lot 10 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229494)	129,300.00
AMD-ED-176	Lot 10 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229482)	116,300.00
AMD-ED-177	Lot 6 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229483)	133,000.00
AMD-ED-178	Lot 15 Blk. 20	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 229481)	210,000.00
AMD-ED-179	Lot 12 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229472)	130,400.00
AMD-ED-180	Lot 8 Blk. 8	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229472)	123,000.00
AMD-ED-181	Lot 14 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229492)	127,800.00
AMD-ED-182	Lot 27 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229492)	122,500.00
AMD-ED-183	Lots 7&10 Blk. 32	100 m^2 (TCT Nos. T- 229503 & T-229504)	228,600.00
AMD-ED-184	Lots 25&26 Blk. 20	100 m^2 (TCT Nos. T- 229478 & T-229479)	197,000.00
AMD-ED-185	Lots 35, 38&39 Blk. 20		
BATANGAS			
AMD-JA-186	D. Silang Street, Batangas City	159 m^2. commercial lot (TCT No. T-53085)	P 2,226,000.00
AMD-ML-187	Lot 11, Blk 3,Transville Homes Subd, Banay-Banay Lipa City	60 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T- 141654) w/ bldg.	P 232,100.00
AMD-ED-188	Bgy Alangilan, Batangas City	18,139 m^2 Ind'l lot (TCT No-53085) w/ bldgs & imp.	P 27,892,900.00
AMD-PY-189	Brgy.Sta. Rita, Batangas City	590 m^2 two adjoining comm'l lot (TCT No T- 43159 & T-43160)	P 1,542,000.00
AMD-MC-190	Bo. Bawl, Padre Garcia	4,545 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-127899) w/ bldg.	P 1,200,000.00
AMD-ML-191	Tiambo,Taysan	44,560 m^2 untitled Agri- land (ARP No. 20-00743) 21,445 m^2 untitled Agri -land (ARP No. 20-00742) 21,662 m^2 untitled Agri -land (ARP No. 20-00741)	P 3,069,000.00
BULACAN			
AMD-PI-192	Lot 18 Blk. 1, Grotto Ville Homes, Gaya-Gaya, San Jose Del Monte	43 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 418450) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 119,000.00
AMD-CP-193	Brgy Santol, Balagtas	31,400 m^2 parcel of lot (TCT Nos T-421182 (M), and T-421183 (M)) with bldg. & imp.	P 10,554,100.00
AMD-PI-194	Citiland Bulacan Heights, Green Breeze 1 Bo. Pulong Buhangin, Sta. Maria	200 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-295185)	P 144,000.00
AMD-CP-195	Kansas St. Ciudad Grande, North Subd., Phase II Bos. Banga and Lawa, Meycauayan	120 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-357146)	P 187,200.00
AMD-ML-196	Camias St., Mazano Subd., Brgy Ibayo, Marilao	294 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-357146)	P 846,800.00
AMD-PI-197	Pungo, Calumpit	6,913 m^2 agricultrual lot (TCT No T-155594)	P 3,318,300.00
AMD-PI-198	Kaybilin Ext. Road, Brgy San Gabriel, Sta. Maria	373 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-385268) w/ 2 bldgs.	P 249,300.00
CWB-4	Bo. Palimbang, Calumpit	690 m^2 residental lot (TCT No. T-162779) w/ bldg & imp.	P 1,731,300.00
CWB-14	NIA Road located at B. San Jose Bintog II, Plaridel	4,503 m^2 agro-residential lot (TCT No. T-191902 (M)) w/ unfinished bldg.	P 3,990,500.00
CWB-13	Tigbe, Norzagaray	1,028 m^2 agro-ind'l lot (TCT No. T-401414 (M)) w/ bldgs. & imp.	P 1,830,700.00
CABANATUAN			
	Vista Amor Subd, Bangad	Residential lot with bldg. & imp	
AMD-PY-199	Lot 45 Blk 2	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 116963)	P 282,600.00
AMD-PY-200	Lot 7 Blk 2	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 116962)	P 333,800.00
AMD-PY-201	Lot 16 Blk 1	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 116960)	P 297,100.00
AMD-PY-202	Lot 21 Blk 2	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 114462)	P 257,600.00
AMD-PY-203	Lot 19 Blk 2	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 118074)	P 273,200.00
AMD-PY-204	Lot 27 Blk 2	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 118071)	P 297,100.00
AMD-PY-205	Lot 15 Blk 1	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 118073)	P 292,900.00
CAVITE			
AMD-DE-206	Lot 5 Blk 9, Satellite Homes III, Brgy San Jose, Dasmariñas	55 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 1089138) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 197,000.00
	Acacia Homes, Bangkal, Dasmariñas	Residential lot w/ bldg. & imp.	
AMD-DE-207	Lot 6 Blk 12	50 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 1063276)	P 123,300.00
AMD-DE-208	Lot 6 Blk 2	80 m^2 (TCT No T- 1063277) with Bldg.	P 165,600.00
	Philhomes Ville I, Bgy Toclong, Kawit	Residential lot w/ bldg & imp	
AMD-MC-209	Lot 43 Blk 11	32 m^2 (TCT No T- 1088686)	P 134,400.00
AMD-MR-210	Lot 20 Blk 11	32 m^2 (TCT No T-1101609)	P 310,400.00
AMD-ML-211	Tradition Homes, Luciano, Trece Martirez City	75 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 68320) w/ Duplex Bldg.	P 200,500.00
AMD-PI-212	Bo. Sinaliw, Alfonso	768 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-369067) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 196,200.00
AMD-DE-213	Bo. Iruhin, Tagaytay City	1,500 m^2 residental lot (TCT No 36905)	P 2,719,500.00
AMD-MC-214	Cherry St., Greenfield Subd., Bo Silangan, Rosario, Cavite	216 m^2(TCT No. T-899528)	P 388,800.00
AMD-MC-215	Cherry St., Greenfield Subd., Bo Silangan, Rosario, Cavite	216 m^2(TCT No. T-896707)	P 398,800.00
AMD-MR-216	Lot 3 Blk. 17, Regal Homes, Alapan I, Imus.	40 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-882846) with bldg. & imp.	P 154,000.00
COTABATO			
AMD-JA-217	Poblacion, M'lang, Cotabato	901 m^2 comm'l/ residential lot (TCT No . T-105909) with Bldg & Facilities, and Caltex Office Station	P 1,742,200.00
CAMARINES SUR			
AMD-CP-218	San Francisco, Iriga City	5,154 m^2 adjoining lot (TCT Nos T 2004, 2005 & 2006) with 3-storey comm'l. bldgs. & imp., equpt. & furniture	P 37,975,700.00
AMD-CP-219	San Juan III Iriga City	7,736 m^2 residential lot (TCT No 2003)	P 3,417,800.00
DIGOS			
AMD-JA-220	Purok I, Padillo Compound, Rizal Ave. Interior, Poblacion, Digos City.	1,122 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-53895) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 1,056,100.00
DAVAO			
AMD-ED-221	Tacunan Road, Catalunan Grande, Davao City	2,235 m^2 continuos (3) residental lot (TCT Nos T- 369591,T-369590,& T-369589) with Bldg.& Imp, Equipt & Facilities	P 3,601,800.00
AMD-ML-222	Miraflores Subd., Tagum City	595 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-193659) w/Bldg & Facilities	P 635,000.00
AMD-JA-223	Bgy. Babac, Malalag, Davao del Sur	69,816 m^2 Agro-Ind'l lot (TCT No . T-52066) with bldg & imp.	P 11,970,000.00
ILIGAN			
AMD-MC-224	Mahayhay, Iligan City	1,612 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-57,198) w/ bldg.	P 1,897,500.00
KIDAPAWAN			
AMD-JA-225	Sudapin, Kidapawan City	500 m^2 residential lot (TCT No . T-105911) with bldg.	P 1,248,400.00
AMD-JA-226	Gayola, Kidapawan City	164,566 m^2 adjoining Agri lot (TCT Nos T-105910)	P 703,500.00
LAGUNA			
AMD-MR-227	Lot 2 Blk. 15, St. Joseph 4, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao	80 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 616397) with Bldg	P 250,600.00
	St. Joseph Village 5, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao	Residential lot w/ bldg. & imp.	
AMD-DE-228	Lot 11 Blk. 1	52 m^2 (TCT No T- 545608)	P 45,300.00
AMD-DE-229	Lot 9 Blk. 3	40 m^2 (TCT No T- 584430)	P 131,800.00
AMD-DE-230	Lot 8 Blk. 11	46 m^2 (TCT No T- 605767)	P 144,200.00
	St. Joseph Village 6, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao	Residential lot w/ bldg. & imp.	
AMD-DE-231	Lot 12 Blk. 8	40 m^2 (TCT No T- 584429)	P 137,100.00
AMD-DE-232	Lot 9 Blk. 14	40 m^2 (TCT No T- 584431)	P 137,100.00
AMD-PI-233	Lot 3 Blk. 11	40 m^2 (TCT No T- 605765)	P 131,400.00
AMD-ML-234	Lot 11, Blk 11,St. Joseph Village, Phase 6, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao, Laguna	40 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 584456) with bldg.	P 140,000.00
AMD-DE-235	Lot 44, Blk 1,St. Joseph Village, Phase 6, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao, Laguna	47 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 562041) with bldg.	P 152,600.00
AMD-DE-236	Lot 16, Blk 8,St. Agnes St.,St. Joseph Village ,Phase 1, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao, Laguna	40 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 599208) with bldg.	P 131,900.00
AMD-PI-237	Lot 10, Blk 8,St. Agnes St.,St. Joseph Village, Phase 1, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao, Laguna	40 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 605766) with bldg.	P 148,500.00
AMD-DE-238	Lot 23 Blk 2, San Pablo St., San Carlos Village, Brgy Banay-Banay, Cabuyao	66 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 536564) with bldg.	P 217,900.00
AMD-ML-239	Lot 20, Blk. 5, Conpil Village IV, San Vicente, San Pedro	79 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 536560) with bldg.	P 253,200.00
NUEVA ECIJA			
AMD-CP-240	Brgy. Cadaclan, Pantabangan	171,126 m^2 agro-residential lot (TCT No. T-58931)	P 1,092,900.00
ORIENTAL MINDORO			
AMD-ED-241	Sto Niño, Puerto Galera, Oriental, Mindoro	9,563 m^2 Agro- residential lot (TCT No 122704 & 122705)	P 6,355,000.00
PAMPANGA			
AMD-ML-242	Don Bonifacio Subd., Balibago, Angeles City	356 m^2 residential lot (TCT No 114589).	P 98,800.00
	Dolores Heights, Dolores, San Fernando	Residential lots:	
AMD-ML-243	Lot 8 Blk. 2	216 m^2 (TCT No 481051-R)	P 466,600.00
AMD-ML-244	Lot 9 Blk. 2	216 m^2 (TCT No 481052-R)	P 466,600.00
AMD-ML-245	Lot 10 Blk. 2	216 m^2 (TCT No 481053-R)	P 466,600.00
AMD-ML-246	Lot 11 Blk. 2	216 m^2 (TCT No 481054-R)	P 466,600.00
AMD-ML-247	Lot 12 Blk. 2	402 m^2 (TCT No 481055-R)	P 868,400.00
QUEZON			
AMD-JA-248	Brgy. Poblacion, Real	400 m^2 commercial lot (TCT No. T-25948) w/ bldg & imp.	P 1,756,200.00
AMD-ML-249	Bo. Cabuguang, Tagkawayan	203,066 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-367909)	P 2,701,800.00
AMD-ML-250	Bo. Cabuguang, Tagkawayan	205,756 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-367910)	P 2,409,200.00
AMD-ML-251	Bo. Sampaloc, Sariaya	10,000 m^2 agricultural lot (TCT No T-367696)	P 660,000.00
RIZAL			
AMD-DE-252	C. Lawis Ext, Bgy San Luis, Antipolo City	1,377 m^2 Ind'l- residential lot (TCT No R-14327) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 6,446,400.00
AMD-CP-253	Pililla	26,720 m^2 residential lot (TCT No M- 100249 & M-100250 m^2)	P 2,227,100.00
AMD-MC-254	Bagumbayan, Teresa	3,747 m^2 agro- residential lot (TCT No . T-96063) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 1,203,100.00
ZAMBOANGA			
AMD-MC-255	Lot 26, Blk 14, Country Homes Pase 3, Ayala, Zamboanga City	3,747 162 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 153.721) with Bldg.	P 221,600.00
CHATTELS			
AMD-JA-256	Bgy Babac, Malalag, Davao Del Sur	Coco-oil Mill Plant w/ 1 lot of piping facilities & Lab Equipt	P 17,148,400.00
AMD-ED-257	Trigon Ice Plant, Numancia, Aklan	1 Unit Diamond Wiresaw Cutter, MABINI Model MAR-FIL w/ 1 unit Wiresaw Automatic Splicing Machine.	P 83,000.00
AMD-ED-258	Trigon Ice Plant, Numancia, Aklan	1 Unit "Airman" Air Compressor, Model-C240	P 18,600.00
AMD-ED-259	Trigon Ice Plant, Numancia, Aklan	1 Unit Trailer mounted Generating Set, 30 KVA	P 13,000.00

BIDDERS ARE REMINDED:

1. To inspect the properties to determine their actual condition before the bidding;
2. To submit in DBP's official bid form available at the AMD-Acquired Assets, 2nd Floor, DBP Head Office during office hours; and
3. To be on time. No bids will be accepted once unsealing of the bids commences. The sale shall be subject to other terms and conditions which may be imposed by the Bank.

DBP RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN, OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. THE DECISION OF THE BANK IS FINAL AND BINDING.

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ASSET MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

(PDI November 5 & 6, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADJUSTMENT OF THE SCHEDULE AND CORRESPONDING ACTIVITIES ON THE CONDUCT OF THE SPECIAL ELECTIONS IN BARANGAYS OCCIDENTAL LINUK, NEW LUMBACAINGUD, PINDOLONAN MORIATAO SARIP AND TALUB, MUNICIPALITY OF TAMPARAN, PROVINCE OF LANAO DEL SUR

x - x

Chairman	Benjamin S. Abalos, Sr.
Commissioner	Rufino S.B. Javier
Commissiner	Mehol K. Sadain
Commissioner	Resurreccion Z. Borra
Commissioner	Florentino A. Tuaspn, Jr.

PROMULGATED : October 20, 2005

RESOLUTION NO. 7604

This pertains to the Joint Memorandum dated 13 October 2005 of Executive Director Pio Jose S. Joson and Atty. Jose M. Tolentino, Jr., Deputy Executive Director for Operations, relative to the adjustment of the schedule and corresponding activities on the conduct of the special elections in Barangays Occidental Linuk, New Lumbacaingud, Pindolonan Moriatao Sarip and Talub, Municipality of Tamparan, Province of Lanao del Sur.

The Joint Memorandum reads:

> *"In compliance with Your Honor's Routing Slip requiring the Offices of the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director for Operations to submit a Joint Memorandum relative to the adjustment of the schedule and corresponding activities on the conduct of the above SUBJECT, please find hereunder the following recommendations, in consultation with the Senior Staff:*
>
> 1. *In order to provide the Commission with sufficient time to prepare, the special barangay elections in four (4) barangays of the Municipality of Tamparan, Province of Lanao Del Sur, namely, Barangays Occidental Linuk, New Lumbacaingud, Pindolonan Moriatao Sarip, and Talub shall be held on **November 19, 2005;***
> 2. *For this purpose, the Election Period shall commence on **November 7, 2005** (12 days before election day), and shall end on **November 22, 2005** (3 days after election day);*
> 3. ***Campaign period** shall start on **November 9, 2005** and end on **November 17, 2005**;*
> 4. *In view of the annulment of the 2001 list of voters and by reason of the general registration conducted in the ARMM from July 15, 2003 to August 5, 2003, only voters who are registered as such under the **current list of voters**, i.e., list of voters used in the **August 8, 2005 ARMM elections**, may vote in the special elections;*
> 5. *Filing of new certificates of candidacy shall not be allowed, except in case of substitution as may be authorized under item no. (7) hereunder;*
> 6. *Only those candidates who filed their certificates of candidacy for the July 15, 2002 Synchronized Barangay and SK Elections shall be voted upon in the November 19, 2005 special barangay elections, provided that said candidates are included in the current computerized voter's list of the barangay where they seek to run for public office;*
> 7. *Filing of certificates of candidacy shall be allowed only in case of substitution by reason of death of a candidate mentioned in item no. (5) above, provided that only the spouse of the candidate who died may substitute the latter;*
> 8. *In case of valid substitution as mentioned in item no. (7) above, a vote for the substituted candidate shall be a vote for the substitute candidate, provided that they have the same surname provided, however, that if the name of the substituted candidate is clearly written on the ballot the vote for the substituted candidate shall be considered stray;*
> 9. *Special elections in Barangay Tatayawan, and special SK elections, in all the four barangays affected shall not be conducted since the same were excluded from the Order of the Supreme Court in the case of Polala Sambarani, et. al., vs. COMELEC, et. al. (G.R. No. 160427, September 15, 2004);*
> 10. *Considering the history of violence in the affected barangays, the Provincial Election Supervisor of Lanao del Sur shall be directed to coordinate with the AFP-PNP to ensure the maintenance of peace and order in the area;*
> 11. *In order to save on cost of publication, the previous Resolutions promulgated by the Commission in connection with the July 15, 2002 synchronized barangay and sangguniang kabataan elections shall be adopted, insofar as may be applicable, provided that said resolutions shall be in accordance with the periods prescribed in the Calendar of Activities and Periods of Prohibited Acts mentioned in item no. (12) hereunder; and*
> 12. *The Calendar of Activities and Periods of Prohibited Acts and the Resolution adopting the previous Resolutions promulgated in connection with the July 15, 2002 synchronized barangay and SK Elections shall be published in connection with the November 19, 2005 special barangay elections. Attached is the draft of the Resolution on the Calendar of Activities and Period of Prohibited Acts, for approval by the Commission En Banc.*
>
> Respectfully submitted."

Considering the foregoing, the Commission **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES**, to **APPROVE** en toto the above-mentioned recommendations of Executive Director Pio Jose S. Joson and Deputy Executive Director for Operations, Jose M. Tolentino, Jr.

Let the Executive Director implement this resolution and the Education and Information Department to cause the publication hereof in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

SO ORDERED.

BENJAMIN S. ABALOS, SR.
Chairman

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER
Commissioner

MEHOL K. SADAIN
Commissioner

RESURRECCION Z. BORRA
Commissioner

FLORENTINO A. TUASON, JR.
Commissioner

(PDI – November 5, 2005)

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TEL. NO.: (632) 712-3341 TO 54 • FAX NO.: (632) 712-1110 • www.nfa.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Supply and Delivery of FDC Laboratory Equipment (17 items)

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY*, through its *2005 Corporate Operating Budget* intends to apply the sum of *P3,347,000.00* being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract *for the supply and delivery of various FDC Laboratory Equipment (17 items)*, as follows:

Item No.	Particulars	No. of Units	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)
1	Refrigerated Circulator	1	165,000.00
2	Elisa Reader and Accessories	1	500,000.00
3	Electronic Dessiccator with Built-in Hygrometer	1	250,000.00
4	Dessiccators for Chemistry Section	1	315,000.00
5	Air Oven	1	270,000.00
6	Dispensette	4	100,000.00
7	Chlorine Test Kits	1	35,000.00
8	Hepa Filters for Clean Bench	13	260,000.00
9	Thermometer Reader with penetration Probes	3	60,000.00
10	Thermocouple Thermometer Recorder or Meter with Penetration Probes	1 2	35,000.00 60,000.00
11	Metrological Weight Set	1	80,000.00
12	Standard Weights, Class F1	1	100,000.00
13	Glass Dessiccator for Shelf-Life Testing Section	2	92,000.00
14	Glass Dessiccator for Package Testing Section	1	180,000.00
15	Dessiccator Cabinet	1	65,000.00
16	Ice Maker for Ice Cubes	1	430,000.00
17	Ice Maker for Flake Ice	1	350,000.00
TOTAL			3,347,000.00

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the *supply and delivery of FDC* Laboratory Equipment (17 items). The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, Instruction to Bidders (ITB).

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/ sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY-BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT* and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of P5,000.00. The method of payment will be *CASH*. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* will hold a *Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on November 14, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.* at the NFA Boardroom, 10th floor, Matimyas Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered at the NFA Boardroom, 10th floor, Matimyas Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City on December 2, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Late Bids shall not be accepted. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in either of the following form and amount.

Form of Security	Required Amount In Percent of ABC
Cash, cashier's Check, Manager's Check, Bank draft or Irrevocable Letter of Credit	One percent (1%)
Bank Guarantee	One and a half percent (1.5%)
Surety Bond stamped "Callable on Demand" on the face of the Bond issued by GSIS	Two and a half percent (2.5%)
Any combination of the above	Proportionate to share

Bid opening shall be on *December 2, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.* at the *NFA Boardroom, 10th floor, Matimyas Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City*. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Procuring Entity - *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY*
Contact Persons - *Jose D. Chua / Violeta S. Villarama*
Address - *101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City*
Telephone No. - *(632) 712-0454*
e-mail address - *vsvillarama@nfa.gov.ph*
Fax No. - *(632) 712-0454*
Website - *www.nfa.gov.ph*

(Sgd.) PEDRO S. HERNANDO, JR.
Deputy Administrator and BAC Chair
for Administration and General Support Services

(PDI – October 29 & November 5, 2005)

PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN SA PAGKAIN
NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY

MATIMYAS BLDG., 101 E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE., QUEZON CITY
TEL. NO.: (632) 712-3341 TO 54 • FAX NO.: (832) 732-1110 • www.nfa.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Supply and Delivery of FDC Laboratory Equipment (11 items)

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY*, through its *2005 Corporate Operating Budget* intends to apply the sum of *P1,906,500.00* being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for *the supply and delivery of various FDC Laboratory Equipment (11 items)*, as follows:

Item No.	Particulars	No. of Units	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)
Chemistry Section			
1	Mojonnier Ether Extraction System for Fat Analysis	1	700,000.00
2	Capillary Column (accessory for Gas Chromatograph)	1	250,000.00
3	Open Circulating Bath	1	295,000.00
4	Water Activity Meter	1	200,000.00
5	pH Meter	1	100,000.00
6	Heating Mantle	1	37,000.00
7	Columns for High Performance Liquid Chromatograph (accessory to HPLC)	2	70,000.00
Microbiology Section			
8	Electronic Top Loading Balance	1	120,000.00
Technology Development Division			
9	Digital Reference Thermometer	1	35,000.00
10	Upright Freezer	1	65,000.00
Microanalytical Section			
11	Digital Microscope camera with software and accessories as tripod, glasswares stand and carrying case	1	34,500.00
TOTAL			1,906,500.00

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the *supply and delivery of various FDC Laboratory Equipment*. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, Instruction to Bidders (ITB).

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/ sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY-BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT* and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from *8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.*

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of P5,000.00. The method of payment will be *CASH*. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on *November 16, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.* at the *NFA Boardroom, 10th floor, Matimyas Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City*

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered at the *NFA Boardroom, 10th floor, Matimyas Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City* on December 7, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Late Bids shall not be accepted. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in either of the following form and amount.

Form of Security	Required Amount In Percent of ABC
Cash, cashier's Check, Manager's Check, Bank draft or Irrevocable Letter of Credit	One percent (1%)
Bank Guarantee	One and a half percent (1.5%)
Surety Bond stamped "Callable on Demand" on the face of the Bond issued by GSIS	Two and a half percent (2.5%)
Any combination of the above	Proportionate to share

Bid opening shall be on *December 7, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.* at the *NFA Boardroom, 10th floor, Matimyas Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City*. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Procuring Entity - *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY*
Contact Persons - *Jose D. Chua / Violeta S. Villarama*
Address - *101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City*
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e-mail address - *vsvillarama@nfa.gov.ph*
Fax No. - *(632) 712-0454*
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(PDI – October 29 & November 5, 2005)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the Sunlife of Canada insurance plan with policy No. 03008808 of the late Annabelle S. Dalidig was extrajudicially settled to Allan S. Dalidig per Doc 3085 Page 617 Book1 Series of 2005 before Notary Public Raul Macalino of San Fernando., Pampanga
(PDI-Oct. 29, Nov.5 & 12, 2005)

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In Loving Memory
of
Joseph Henry Ng
10th Death Anniversary
July 14, 1917 – November 5, 1995

MASSES ON NOVEMBER 5, 2005

CHURCHES	ADDRESS	TIME
Santuario de San Antonio Parish	Makati City	7:30 AM 6:00 PM
St. John Bosco Parish	Makati City	7:30 AM 6:00 PM
Mary the Queen Parish	Greenhills	6:00 AM 7:00 AM 6:00 PM
Santuario de San Jose	Greenhills	7:15 AM 6:15 PM
St. Joseph the Worker Parish	Palanan, Makati City	6:00 AM
Sn. Felipe Neri Parish	Mandaluyong City	7:00 AM
Shrine of Divine Mercy	Mandaluyong City	6:00 AM
St. Andrew Parish	Bel-Air, Makati City	6:00 AM
St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori Parish	Magallanes Village	6:00 PM
St. Jerome & St. Susana Parish	Alabang, Muntinlupa City	6:00 AM
Our Lady of Beautiful Love	Merville, Parañaque City	6:00 AM 6:00 PM

We love you dearly, Mom !!!

LUZ J. GONZALEZ

of New Manila, Quezon City

Commission of the Elderly and Disabled
Peacefully joined her Creator
on 1 November 2005 at the age of 81.

Her loving children **Teresita "Bon"** and **Oscar "Dodo"**, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at #2 Doña Juana St., New Manila, Quezon City.

Interment will be at La Loma Cemetery, Caloocan City on Sunday, 6 November, 2005 after the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...
INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
- ❶ Copy of Death Certificate;
- ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

**DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS •
DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS •
FREE OBIT DESIGN**

---

*"The Lord is my Sheperd
there is nothing I shall want"
Psalm 23*

Fely S. Aparis

Whose mission in this life has been completed, peacefully joined our Lord on November 1, 2005 at the age of 59.

Her loving family, relatives and friends requests the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Charity Chapel at Don Bosco Pasay Road, Makati City. Interment will be on Sunday November 6 at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 2:00 PM Mass at Don Bosco Church.

Our Dearly Beloved

TATAY

DIONICIO R. HIPOLITO

Peacefully joined our Lord on November 3, 2005 at the age of 87.

His loving children **Cora**, **Baby**, **Boy**, **Tery** and **Carding**; grandchildren, request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

Interment will be on Monday, November 7, 2005 at 3:00 PM at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina.

In Loving Memory

On the **2nd Death Anniversary** of

MANUEL FELIX E. OLIVA

On November 5, 2003

(Formerly Sales Director, Gilette Philippines)

Masses will be offered at the following churches:

Carmelite of St. Therese
Gilmore Avenue, Quezon City
Sanctuario de San Antonio
Forbes Park, Makati City
St. John Bosco Parish
Makati City.

The family requests relatives and friends to remember him in their prayers.

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NOTICE

Please get in touch with the Members Assistance Center, Social Security System (SSS), East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City or at any SSS office nearest your place of residence and file your death benefit claim within 90 days upon publication, if you are:

	NAME OF BENEFICIARY	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS	NAME OF SSS MEMBER	DATE OF DEMISE
1)	Fermina Nacid	Ibung Villa Verde, Solano, Nueva Vizcaya	Constantino Alog SS#01-0659846-1	December 16, 1991
2)	Renato Castro	Unknown	Carmelita Castro SS#01-1652032-3	October 23, 2002
3)	Herminia Cordero	Nueva Valencia, Guimaras, Iloilo	Jose Cordero SS#03-3026111-1	June 5, 2005
4)	Rogelio Cubar	Not Indicated	Carmen S. Cubar SS#03-4168488-4	August 23, 2005
5)	Myrona Donadillo Marona Donadillo	Bagong Silang, Caloocan	Joel L. Donadillo SS#33-4062241-7	March 2, 2004
6)	Rubygin	Unknown	Rolando N. Galang SS#33-1041559-9	June 5, 2005
7)	Virginia/Virginicita Goc-Ong	Buhisan, Bunawan, Davao City	Telesforo Goc-Ong SS#09-0164463-3	May 6, 2004
8)	Emedi Guerrero	323 Cordero St., Caloocan City	Carmelo Guerrero SS#03-0379546-5	July 22, 2005
9)	Nelia Planas and children Michelle and Christopher	Unknown	Conrado Isaguirre SS#33-1079463-4	July 23, 2005
10)	Melvin Ramos Cristina Ramos	Judge A. Roldan St., Navotas, Metro Manila	Melencio Ramos SS#03-1990734-4	November 24, 2004
11)	Pura S. Bue	2220 San Antonio, Sampaloc, Manila	Luis L. Romano SS#03-0739775-9	October 3, 2004
12)	Susan dela Cruz Tejada, Eleazar Tejada Eloisa Tejada	Unknown	Efren H. Tejada SS#03-3675726-3	December 19, 1999
13)	Eugenio S. Vinegas	613 Interior A. Nicodemus, Tondo, Manila	Joseph D. Vinegas SS#03-9436683-8	June 18, 2005

(PDI - November 5, 2005)

- Nothing Follows -

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE

INVITATION TO BID

The Privatization and Management Office (PMO) is offering for sale, on "as-is, where-is" basis, the following PMO Service Vehicles:

VEHICLE DESCRIPTION	Price
1999 Mitsubishi Pajero – PLATE No. SFK 266 wagon, gray color, 6 cylinder diesel engine, automatic transmission, complete with spare tire and tools.	P 600,000
1995 Suzuki Vitara – PLATE No. SFD 908 white wagon, 4 cylinder gasoline engine, 4 speed manual transmission, complete with spare tire, tools and accessories.	P 190,000
1995 Nissan Vannette – PLATE No. SFD 788 red wide body, 4 cylinder gas engine, 5-speed manual, complete with spare tire, tools, and accessories.	P 130,000
1987 Nissan Sentra – PLATE No. SCH 990 blue 4 door sedan, 4 cylinder gas engine, 5-speed transmission, complete with spare tire, tools and accessories	P45,000

Bids will be received, opened and tabulated in the presence of the bidders on November 23, 2005 at 3:00 P.M. at the PMO Conference Room, 6th Floor, PMO Bldg., 104 Gamboa St. Legaspi Village, Makati City.

If the above bidding fails, PMO reserves the right to accept Proposals.

Sale documents consisting of the Asset Specific Bidding Rules (ASBR) and Asset Specific Bidding Form (ASBF) is now available upon registration of interest and payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Hundred Pesos (P200.00), for each vehicle.

For inquiries and details, please contact Ms. Hazel S. Mamuad at telephone numbers 818-8305 or 892-2145.

(PDI-November 4, 5 & 6, 2005)

PRESIDENT ARROYO INAUGURATES 2 TRANSCO PROJECTS

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo led the inauguration and switch-on rites for two crucial transmission projects in the Visayas - the P3.7 billion Leyte-Cebu Interconnection Uprating Project (LCIUP) and the P2.06-billion Cebu-Mactan Interconnection Project (CMIP). The two projects are the realization of the National Transmission Corp.'s (TransCo) commitment to finally put an end to the power supply challenge in the Visayas. With the completion of these projects, the state firm has secured the adequacy and reliability of electricity in Cebu, Negros, Panay and the rest of the region for the next five to seven years by delivering the much-needed power from the geothermal fields in Tongonan, Leyte. The projects will also provide the power infrastructure that will help secure thousands of jobs and create more employment opportunities in the region. Joining the President in photo taken during the ceremonies held late last month in Mactan, Cebu were (from left) Energy Sec. Raphael Lotilla, Cebu Chamber of Commerce pres. Robert Go, TransCo pres. and CEO Alan T. Ortiz, PNOC pres. Paul Aquino, DOE Usec. Eduardo Mañalac, Rep. Nerissa Soon-Ruiz, Cebu Gov. Gwendolyn Garcia, and Kanematsu Yugue. Inset shows a 3D-scale model of the projects.

NFA LOAD PORT REPRESENTATIVES IN VIETNAM

Mr. Ricardo Rostata (standing), a senior grains operations officer of the National Food Authority discusses with Mr. Quoc Khan (to his right), chief of the Food and Commodities Control of Long An Province of Vietnam, the details of the rice shipment for the Philippines as part of the NFA's rice imports for food security. Rostata was a member of a 12-man delegation of NFA personnel (seated) sent to Vietnam recently to coordinate with the supplier and witness loading operations, visit loading sites and production areas, inspect warehouses and observe the conduct of rice stock analysis at the surveyor's laboratories. The Vietnam Southern Food Corporation (Vinafood), representing the government of Vietnam, won a contract for the supply of majority of this year's Philippine rice imports. Travel expenses and accommodation of the NFA load port representatives were paid for by the supplier and surveyor.

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Shell's new ad campaign features top socio-civic leader

INSPIRING AND EMPOWERING FILipinos to work hard and go further is the theme of Pilipinas Shell's Better Mileage Gasolines latest ad campaign featuring Gawad Kalinga worker Tony Meloto.

"Pag may layunin, malayo ang mararating!" highlights a vision shared by Meloto, one of the country's respected socio-civic leader, and Shell as they inspire Filipinos to live their dream; Shell, with its continuing effort to provide high quality products and Meloto, for his unwavering commitment in uplifting the quality of life for the poor.

Meloto, founder of the successful community development project, Gawad Kalinga , was chosen as "icon" of the newly-launched Shell campaign because he exemplifies the ideals of Shell as a company. for his tireless effort in addressing the needs of the poor by spearheading activities aimed at building communities, values and spiritual formation, livelihood, among others may be likened to Shell's persistent effort in developing quality fuels using its Global technology to be able to deliver to the customers the fuel product that would take them further.

Meloto is no stranger to the struggles of the poor. He worked hard to earn a scholarship at Ateneo University to eventually enjoy great career opportunities. Ten years ago, he opted to leave his job in Melbourne, Australia to move back home and establish Gawad Kalinga. He felt his sense of accomplishment and fulfillment would only come once he has shared his successes with those people who were left behind.

Today, Meloto has built communities in Bagong Silang, Payatas, Magsunga in Bacolod City and Bagsak in Davao, to name a few. He believes every Filipinos deserves a chance to advance in life and go the distance by setting goals and being driven to achieve it, with the support of volunteers and organizations in and around the country.

Like Meloto, Shell believes that Filipinos may be fueled to strive hard towards the accomplishment of a life's dream. in the wisdom of going further. Shell Better Mileage Gasolines such as Super Premium, Super Unleaded and Velocity offer improved engine efficiency with minimized deposits, improved combustion and reduced friction. All to achieve efficiency to go the distance without using more fuel. After all, "Ang layunin ng Shell, malayo ang marating nyo!".

SIGNING
MORANDU UNDERS NG
betw DIC and D
EDUCATION MODULE
DepED

PDIC, DEPED SIGN MOU ON SAVINGS CAMPAIGN FOR STUDENTS

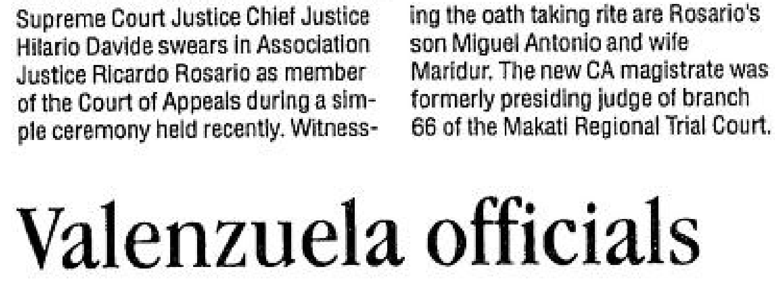
The Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) and the Department of Education (DepED) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on the Basic Secondary Education (BSE) - PDIC Module Development Project Oct. 26, at the Astoria Plaza Hotel, Pasig City. The joint project aims to raise high school students' awareness on savings mobilization and PDIC's core functions. Rooted on the idea that the youth are effective change agents who will mold the Philippine economy in the future, the project will integrate in the high school curriculum the value of saving, PDIC's mandate to protect depositors, as well as the rights and responsibilities of depositors. Seen in the photo are: (from left) PDIC Vice President for Communications and Stakeholder Relations Maria. Leonida Fres-Felix, PDIC president and CEO Ricardo M. Tan, DepED Acting Secretary Dr. Fe A. Hidalgo and DepED Director for Basic Secondary Education Lolita A. Andrada.

SMARTY TOYS, ENERGIZER TEAM-UP

Energizer Battery signed as the presentor of the 2005 Speed-Tech grand Tourisimo Competition. Speed-Tech is a brand of local remote control vehicles distributed by Smarty Toys Corp, available at leading department stores and toy shops nationwide. Kids Connex Marketing Corp is the authorized Marketing Agency of Smarty Toys Corp. Signing was held at Energizer Philippines Inc office last Aug. 17. Shown are (seated, from left): Ruben Yu, GM, Smarty Toys Corp; John Lim, director, Kids Connex Marketing Corp; Alan Roy McCormick, marketing manager, Energizer Phils Inc; (standing, from left): Mary Jane Lim, Kids Connex Marketing Corp; Ann Claire Tecson, product manager, Energizer Phils Inc.

INAUGURAL PORT CALL AT THE SOUTH HARBOR

Port operator Asian Terminals Inc (ATI) celebrated the arrival of M/V Thorsriver as she sailed into South Harbor Container Terminal at the Port of Manila last Oct. 25. Pendulum Express Lines Pte Ltd, one of the largest oceangoing cargo shippers in Asia, deployed the 201.5-meter container vessel for the Laem Chabang - Kaohsiung Express (LKX) Service. ATI assistant vice president for container operations Oliver Gepiga (third from left photo) welcomed the vessel's captain, Napoleon D. Cepe (second from right) and reiterated the terminal's commitment to render the highest level of container handling service. Starting Oct. 25, M/V Thorsriver will call twice a month at South Harbor.



NEW APPELLATE JUSTICE

Supreme Court Justice Chief Justice Hilario Davide swears in Association Justice Ricardo Rosario as member of the Court of Appeals during a simple ceremony held recently. Witnessing the oath taking rite are Rosario's son Miguel Antonio and wife Maridur. The new CA magistrate was formerly presiding judge of branch 66 of the Makati Regional Trial Court.

Valenzuela officials unite to fight dengue

BARANGAY OFFICIALS IN THE city of Valenzuela unite to prevent the further increase of dengue cases in the city.

From Jan. 1 to Aug. 25 of this year, the city health office posted 244 dengue cases. Most of which, are from District II, particularly from the Barangays of Gen. T. De Leon of Marulas, Karuhatan and Maysan. This prompted the city government to declare the said district in an epidemic level.

The said cases were based from reports gathered from 10 reporting institutions, which include the San Lazaro Hospital, Valenzuela General Hospital, Fatima Medical Center, Calalang General Hospital, MCU Hospital, Philippine Children's Medical Center, Sanctissimo Rosario Hospital, Health Centers, Tondo Medical Center and Valenzuela Emergency Hospital.

"The number of dengue cases is lower than of the same period last year, but still it has exceeded the epidemic threshold. And we are doing our best to address this issue," said City Mayor Sherwin Gatchalian.

"We have intensified our anti-dengue operations. Fogging operations by our health office are supplemented by cleaning operations, jointly undertaken by out waste management office and the river and waterways office," he added.

"However, as we have always been stressing, the participation of each and every one is needed. Cleaning our surroundings is still the best way to fight dengue," Gatchalian stressed.

Also, Dr. Manuel Mapue, the city epidemiologist said, "Dengue prevention and control rests primarily on the people who live in the houses where the problems occur and by the people who help create the mosquito larval habitats by their lifestyles."

Of the number of reported cases, victims are mostly from the school-age children (6 to 14) and the working group (15 to 49).

Although the cases reported have exceeded the epidemic threshold, the city has not yet declared state of calamity.

Extensive cleaning and fogging operations, as well as seminars and trainings are continuously conducted in the various barangays.

ProductFILES

'Dressed to D-Max' at sport truck show

THE 10TH CALTEX DELO SPORT TRUCK & Custom Car at the Megatrade Hall of SM Megamall in Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City, held Sept. 28 to Oct. 2 was participated in by Isuzu Phils Corp, which displayed five beefed-up and fully loaded units of the best-selling D-Max pickup. In coming up with "Dressed to D-Max" show pickups, Isuzu teamed up with renowned aftermarket specialists like A-Toy Body Kits, Options Unlimited and Autozone, to successfully transform the D-Max into a mean-looking machine. With its powerful but fuel-efficient 3.0-liter in-line-4 diesel engine, the D-Max is already the most brutish pickup in its class. Add to this the tough image of the Isuzu brand and you have what is probably the most fearsome mover on the market today. Sporty body kits and accessories, huge and shiny alloy wheels, and heart-pounding audio systems will definitely give the D-Max an undeniable cloak of coolness.

New AMWSLAI Board elected

THE AIR MATERIEL WING SAVINGS AND LOAN Association Inc (AMWSLAI) announced that 2,016 regular members personally trooped to the polls to elect a new majority to the AMWSLAI Board of Trustees. Ret. Col. Ricardo L. Nolascò Jr. topped the elections and was re-elected board chair. Ret. BGen Ruben C. Estepa, vice chair; Ret. 2Lt Cedric V. Reyes, corporate secretary; Col. Domingo E. Dimapilis Jr., treasurer; Ret. 2Lt Morado O. Mercado, corporate auditor; other board members are Ret. Colonels Antonio S. Gumba, Thaddeus P. Estalilla, Ismael A. Abad, Angel E. Tapac; Maj. Rolando S. Cacabelos; and retired 2Lt Ricardo P. Perido, Ret. 2Lt Cesar S. Toledanes. Col. Carly S. Divinagracia was re-appointed president and CEO. The entry of 8 new members in the 11-man board is seen as a welcome development and vital step towards stabilization after AMWSLAI was rocked by bitter corporate intramurals for more than a year. AMWSLAI is the second largest non-stock savings and loan association in the Philippines with over P15 billion in resources and more than 36 branches all over the Philippines to serve its more than 260,000 members nationwide.

DOS-I RECEIVES 1ST ADL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Dynamic Outsource Solutions Inc (DOS-I), a member of the Lina Group of Companies (LGC), was the recipient of the 1st ADL Quality Excellence Award for 2004. The ADL Quality Excellence Award is aimed at enhancing the implementation of the total quality management amongst the LGC using the Philippine Quality Award (PQA) criteria as a model. The ADL Quality Excellence Awards was given to DOS-I on the strength of its merits of having been ISO 9001:2000 certified in August of 2004 by the TUV. Photo shows DOS-I president Reuben Pangan holding the ADL Excellence Award trophy. With him are members of the DOS-I management team and some of the top officials of the Lina Group of Companies.

BITS Clips

Export marketing seminar

LEADING EDGE FORUM FOR EXCELLENCE INC (LEFFE) a group of entrepreneurs and marketing professionals, will hold an export marketing seminar on Nov. 9, at the Business Conference Center, Export Bank, Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City. The seminar will focus on identifying proven winning strategies that Filipino exporters can adopt to penetrate new markets or expand trading activities in existing markets. For detailed information and reservation the export seminar, callers may contact LEFFE at 531-0084; 0919-229-9777; 0919-229-9780; and 0915-780-4379 or send an e-mail to leffeinc@yahoo.com or leffe@pldtdsl.net.

DLSU '81 hosts pre-homecoming party

BATCH '81 IS INVITING ALL LA SALLIANS, INCLUDING GRADUATES from La Salle-operated schools, their families and friends to a pre-homecoming fellowship party on Nov. 9 at the NBC Tent at the Fort Bonifacio Global City. The party, with its theme and title, "Swing Back to the 70's," promises to be a night of all-out fun and reminiscing with music provided by the Replay Band. Party starts 6 p.m. until midnight.

CertifyIT! for Software Development

WITH ITS THEME, "PROGRAMMED 2 SUCCEED," CERTIFYIT! FOR SOFTWARE Development highlights people and process during the 2-day conference and exhibition. Among the existing software process and assessment models, Capability Maturity Model Integrated (CMMI) will be discussed extensively. To help achieve a basic quality framework for the organization, other relevant standards/concepts such as Project Management, Information Security Management, BS 15000 and Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) will be presented. CertifyIT! for Software Development will be held on Nov. 8 to 9, at the Hotel Intercontinental Manila, Makati, Philippines. To register call +632 725-0625, 721-8506, 726-6235, e-mail: certifyit@itpros.ph or visit the website: www.itpros.ph/certifyit.

'Puppy Festival' and 'Cats on Purrade'

BE IT A CAT OR A DOG, LET OUR LITTLE PET FRIENDS SHINE IN THE FRISKIES Cats on Purrade on Nov. 12 and the Alpo Puppy Festival on Nov. 13 at the Orosa Wing of Robinsons Place Manila. With a carnival/circus theme in place, the event will definitely bring fun and merriment all throughout the day with the culmination at 3 p.m. The event takes excitement to a higher level as the audience is given the chance to choose the "Alpo and Friskies Darling of the Crowd" on both days. Bring your pets and family to the event and take part in the various activities which will put your pets in the limelight and provide fun and entertainment for the entire family. Pet owners who buy Alpo and Friskies products from the Robinson's supermarket can also present their receipts at the event to avail of various prizes.

Forum on Parkinson's Disease

THE PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP OF THE PHILIPPINES FOUNDATION (PSGP) will meet on Nov. 13, Sunday at 12 noon at the Auditorium of the Cathedral Heights Building (South Tower), 14th floor, St. Luke's Medical Center, on E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue Quezon City. The meeting will start at 12 noon with free lunch sponsored by Servier Philippines, manufacturer of Parkinson's medication Trivastal (piribedil). After lunch, a lecture on the "Pulmonary Symptoms of Patients with Parkinson's Disease and Parkinsonism," will be conducted by Dr. Leni Canizares-Fernandez, one of the top pulmonologists at the Philippine General Hospital. An open forum will follow the lecture. Any information about the meeting is available at St. Luke's Movement Disorders Center at (02)727-5552 or 723-0301 or 723-0301 local 3101 and ask for Roxan or Lala.

Come home to Ateneo

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE GRAND ALUMNI HOMECOMING ON DEC. 3, all grade school, high school, college and graduate school 1955, 1965, 1980 and 1995 jubilarians of the Ateneo de Manila University are invited to an all jubilarians' reception on Nov. 10, 6 p.m. at the 4/F Lobby and Roof Deck of the Ateneo de Manila Professional Schools, Rockwell Campus, Makati City. For inquiries, call 426-6001 local 4092 (Florie), local 4095 (Mercy); 426-6081/82 (Florie or Mercy), fax 426-6080. E-mail rsvp@alumni.ateneo.net

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
National Capital Region
U.N. Avenue, Manila

INVITATION TO REGISTER, APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID FOR THE PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES

1 The National Food Authority, National Capital Region, U.N. Avenue, Paco, Manila, through the Approved Corporate Budget for Calendar Year 2005, intends to apply the sum of THIRTY FIVE MILLION TWENTY FOUR THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED PESOS (P35,024,400.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the provision of Security Services. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall automatically be rejected at Bid Opening.

2. The National Food Authority - National Capital Region invites all interested private security agencies to register (accreditation), apply for eligibility and to bid for provision of security services to be deployed at the different NFA designated areas/installations (composed of different NFA district offices) in NFA - National Capital Region, on a per lot basis, as follows:

LOT NO.	AREA COVERED	NO. OF SECURITY GUARDS	APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT (ABC)
I	RO/CDO & IPSO	112	P18,950,400.00
II	NDO & MTO	35	P5,992,000.00
III	SDO, EDO & CPO	60	P10,152,000.00

Application forms and list of requirements for registration can be secured from the Regional Bids and Awards Committee (RBAC - SS) Secretariat after payment of a non-refundable registration fee of PESO TWO THOUSAND (P2,000.00)

Only PSA's with Certificate of Official Registration issued by NFA-NCR RBAC-SS may apply for eligibility and to bid for NFA Security Services. Delivery of the Services is required from date of signing of the Contract for Security Services until ***DECEMBER 31, 2006*** The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, Instruction to Bidders (ITB)

The schedule of activities are as follows:

	ACTIVITIES	DATE/TIME
1	Issuance of application for Registration/Requirements	October 29 - November 9, 2005 (From 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
2.	Deadline for submission for Registration Application & Requirements	Not later than November 11, 2005 3:00 p.m.
3.	Issuance of Certificate of Registration & Application/ Requirements for eligibility & to bid	On or before November 11-14, 2005 (From 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
4.	Pre-Bidding Conference	November 15, 2005; 10:00 a.m.
5.	Bidding Proper	November 29, 2005; 9:00 a.m.

3. Bidding shall be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR-A) of Republic Act No. 9184 [R.A. 9184] and is restricted to organizations with at least 60% interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, as specified in Republic Act 5183 (RA 5183) and has been in the security business for at least three (3) years. Only bids of bidders who passed the eligibility check will be opened. The process for eligibility check is described in the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the lowest calculated bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine his responsiveness to the technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure

4 A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by the prospective Bidders (with Certificates of Registration issued by the RBAC) from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00). The method of payment will be in Cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative

5 The National Food Authority, National Capital Region, reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

National Food Authority - National Capital Region
U.N. Avenue, Paco, Manila
Telephone No 563-9437
Fax No. 563-0465

(Sgd.) ATTY. BASILIDES TACO
Asst. Regional Director &
Chairman, BAC, NFA-NCR

(PDI Oct 29 & Nov 5 2005)

BUSINESS

ICTSI investing $30M in Madagascar project

Expanding overseas operations, strengthening RP ventures

By Clarissa S. Batino

INTERNATIONAL CONTAINER TERMINAL Services Inc., the country's largest port operator, is investing more than $30 million (about P1.65 billion) in its project in Toamasina, Madagascar.

ICTSI subsidiary Madagascar International Container Terminal Services Ltd. will handle this concession.

Jan Mors, ICTSI senior vice president, said the company's total investment in Madagascar would be more than $30 million. This will cover the infrastructure, equipment, IT systems and human resources requirement of the Madagascar operations.

Last month, ICTSI formed a joint venture with Australia-based Anglo Ports Pty Ltd. for a A$200-million investment in prospective terminal projects such as Sydney's Port Botany, the Port of Melbourne and the Port of Fremantle in Western Australia.

The joint venture plans to crack the Australian stevedoring market currently dominated by two companies, Patrick Corp. Ltd. and P&O.

"While we are rolling this out (in Toamasina), we are already developing detailed plans for the long-term development of the terminal. This will necessitate additional sizable investment in all key areas," said Mors, who is responsible for the Madagascar project.

Société du Port à Gestion de Toamasina, the new port authority for Toamasina, formally handed control of the new container terminal facility to ICTSI last month.

ICTSI, controlled by Enrique Razon, said container traffic through Toamasina which totaled 104,000 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent unit) in 2004 should double by 2009.

The Philippine port operator said it had made investments in container handling equipment for Madagascar. These include three reach stackers and 17 terminal tractors acquired from Kalmar, 21 terminal trailers, Stinis autotwist spreader systems, and empty handling equipment.

The equipment cost about $3 million, according to ICTSI. Over the next 12 months, it would spend $5 million more to purchase additional reach stackers and the introduction of rubber tired gantries as well as a phased equipment training program for terminal operations and maintenance staff.

ICTSI said a strong IT system was a priority. Its Madagascar unit had invested in bespoke gate and yard management systems as well as in container terminal billing systems.

The IT system in Madagascar will be enhanced further through the implementation of a full Terminal Operating System by the third quarter of 2006, the installation of an in-house developed productivity yard and monitoring system, and establishing direct links to customs, SGS and Tradenet.

ICTSI said that over the next two years, it would make additional investment in infrastructure, including the rehabilitation of 280 meters of quay and the strengthening of the terminal's berth C2 so as to be able to accommodate mobile harbor crane operation.

It will also rehabilitate 12 hectares of container stacking area, construct gatehouse, operations control center and administration building.

Total investments in civil works alone over the next 24 months is expected to exceed $13 million.

ICTSI said it would transform Madagascar port into a world class container terminal.

Finance wants changes in IPP industries selection rule

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE WILL PUSH for changes in the criteria for the selection of industries to be included in the Investment Priorities Plan (IPP), a list of preferred activities eligible for incentives.

A finance official said that for the more than three decades that the government had been granting tax and duty exemptions, many of the industry-beneficiaries had not shown substantial contributions to the economy.

The official said this could be because the government had been choosing the wrong industries to support.

"This means we have to review the criteria and determine which industries should be given tax and duty incentives," the official said.

The DOF has just completed a position paper calling for changes in the criteria for the IPP. Once finalized, the paper is expected to be submitted to the Senate as an additional input for the deliberation of the fiscal incentives rationalization bill.

He said an additional criterion in selecting industries to be included in the IPP list was the use of high technology or the employment of a pioneer technology. The official said the government could come up with criteria that could help achieve the goal of promoting economic activity.

The suggested criteria include the number of workers employed, the volume of production and the amount of investments.

"The criteria should be easily quantifiable and monitored, and verifiable," the official said.

The Board of Investments (BOI) was tasked to identify industries to be included in the IPP list. The list is changed yearly.

Included in the 2005 IPP list are: Agribusiness, healthcare and wellness products and services, information and communications technology, electronics, motor vehicle production, energy, infrastructure, tourism, shipbuilding/shipping, jewelry and fashion garments.

The fiscal incentives rationalization bill, one of the Arroyo administration's proposed measures to address the country's fiscal problem, seeks to reduce the number of tax perks granted to businesses. This is to trim potential revenue losses of the government arising from the granting of tax and duty exemptions.

Integrated power sector plan pushed

By Abigail L. Ho

THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT Bank is recommending the adoption of a comprehensive and integrated Power Sector Development Program (PSDP) that will address the critical challenges facing the industry.

ADB principal energy specialist Yongping Zhai said the sector's financial viability would have to be restored, its regulatory performance improved and investor confidence in it enhanced to ensure the successful restructuring of the industry.

To address these challenges, he said there had to be a "comprehensive and integrated PSDP approach that combines a policy-based program cluster with an investment project and guarantee facilities."

The ADB said the PSDP should focus on five key areas: financial viability of the power sector, regulatory framework and performance, market restructuring toward competition; private participation in power generation and transmission and consumer protection.

Its components are: A policy-based lending to cover restructuring cost, investment loan, partial credit guarantee for the refinancing of the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp.'s debts, partial credit guarantee for electricity market trading, and political risk guarantee for private investmentin power generation and transmission.

Zhai said the proposed PSDP would be assessed by monitoring specific outputs that were considered critical in the successful restructuring of the country's power sector.

These include the elimination of National Power Corp.'s debts and the establishment of creditworthiness of PSALM and the electric cooperatives.

The public's confidence in the Energy Regulatory Commission's impartiality and independence should also be strengthened.

LRTA needs $5M to settle issues over junked contract

THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT AUTHORITY IS asking the budget department for a $5-million (about P275 million) allocation so it can settle its obligations with Canadian firm SNC Lavalin over a canceled deal on LRT Line 1 extension.

LRTA administrator Mel Robles said the agency had junked the unsolicited proposal of SNC Lavalin on the advice of International Finance Corp. to hold a bidding for the project to get better offers.

The World Bank arm believed the unsolicited offer of SNC Lavalin was "expensive," according to the LRTA.

"We have asked the DBM to provide us with a budget so we can pay SNC Lavalin the balance of $5 million being claimed (by SNC Lavalin)," said Robles in an interview.

The government had already paid $5 million of the $10 million which, it believed, was spent in the preparation of the project's feasibility study and development plans. The Canadian firm, however, claimed it spent $20 million for the feasibility study.

Robles said that aside from being 'expensive,' the Canadian firm also sought a government guarantee on the project, which made its offer even more disadvantageous.

The LRTA is consulting with the IFC on the extension of LRT Line 1 to Cavite.

This $867-million, 12-kilometer extension to Bacoor, Cavite is one of the priority projects of the Arroyo administration and is supposed to be on stream by 2009.

The government received the unsolicited offer from SNC Lavalin more than five years ago but the project could not proceed because of doubts as to whether the Canadian firm's offer was sound from the government's fiscal and financial perspective.

SNC Lavalin also threatened to walk out from the project because of the delays but somehow, it was appeased by assurances from the government that the project would push through.

The Canadian firm offered to build the railway for more than $70 million per kilometer, according to Robles.

The first phase of the LRTA Line 1 extension will lengthen the railway up to Bacoor in Cavite, with a projected ridership of 400,000 passengers daily.

It may later be extended further to Imus beside Bacoor and then to Dasmarinas, also in Cavite. LRT Line 1 carries an average of 350,000 passengers a day.

The extension would make LRT Line 1 the most viable among the mass railway projects, said Robles.

The LRT Line 1 extension would ease the bottleneck in Bacoor. This could compliment the Coastal Road project to run from Bacoor to Kawit and Noveleta. *Clarissa S. Batino*

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PROPERTY

Developers to discuss electrification issues with ERC

By Charles E. Buban

THE PROVISION OF electricity is vital for home developers considering this is one of the first things their buyers will be asking them when considering their project.

For the past few years, however, this has become a major concern among developers as power distributors now require them to shoulder the initial investment that would cover expenses for electric posts, wires, transformers, meters and the like in their project site before electric service can be assured.

"Our members are now concerned since this arrangement has a significant impact on the cost of their development, the time frame when they could deliver their project and the fact that they are not assured of an adequate return on their investment," noted Subdivision and Housing Developers Association national president Willie Uy.

Invited

In fact, SHDA has invited Rodolfo Albano Jr., chair of the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), as well as a representative of the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) on their business meeting on Nov. 8.

The ERC is the government's regulatory body tasked to promulgate and approve rules, regulations, guidelines and policies as well as resolve cases (on rates and other cases) and disputes while Meralco is the country's largest power distributor.

Albano is expected to talk on the options available for developers with regard to giving cash advance to power distributors namely, notes payable, 25 percent of gross distribution revenue one year after the date of electrification, and preferred shares for residential units.

Magna Carta

"We have requested the chair to also discuss the Magna Carta for Residential Electricity Consumers—the proposed bill embodies the rights and guarantees to consumers—and the recent requirement of some power distributors to donate the developed facilities without just compensation to the developer," Uy revealed.

The lunch meeting will be held at the Makati Sports Club in Salcedo Village.

Said SHDA board adviser and public utilities committee chair Marin Martinez: "We hope to clarify these issues with the ERB soon, considering that home developers are vital partners of the government in its mission to deliver more homes to more families. If provision of electrical service is kept on being delayed, developers won't be able to deliver their projects on time."

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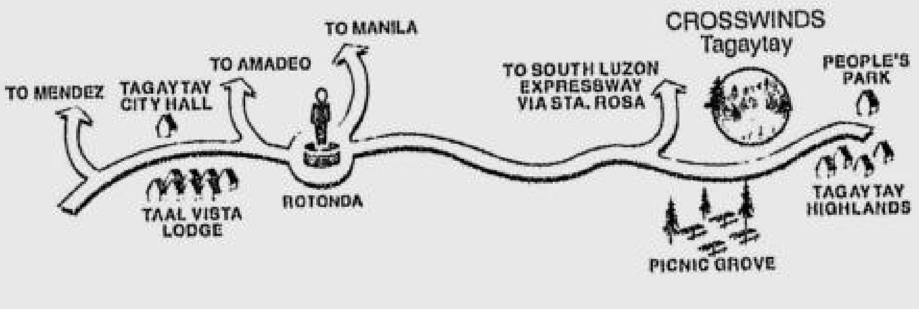

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Energy-efficient buildings are safer

GREEN ARCHITRENDS

Amado de Jesus

IN THE MID-1990S THE PENTAGON IN Washington D.C. was given the mandate to reduce its energy by 35 percent by the year 2010. Its chief engineer recommended a new centralized energy management system (EMS). The system was designed to automate the building's heating, ventilating and air-conditioning (HVAC) system, and to make it easier to monitor, manage and to dramatically lower energy bills.

The result was the command center, the building's brain where information on the building's condition is collected in real time. The staff can fine-tune these systems from their workstations or tap into the information system via laptop connections in the building's 500-plus mechanical rooms.

The final test of the system came on Sept. 11, 2001 when a jetliner was forced by hijackers to crash into the building cutting off power from the command center. Armed with a laptop and a two-way radio, and the help of a few men, the chief engineer tapped into the information system, still intact, and sent out manual commands that closed dampers and turned off fans to contain smoke and deprive the fire of oxygen.

The next day, the Pentagon reopened. One hundred eighty nine people had been killed and the building suffered millions of dollars in damages. But the mission-critical areas and rooms were spared, thanks to the energy management system and eight people. A system that was designed to save energy ultimately saved many lives and minimized damage.

Reducing energy consumption

Every building constructed has an adverse effect on the natural environment. It starts with the way the building is oriented and erected, to the type of building materials used, their manufacture, transport, installation and eventual disposal. To make buildings sustainable, it is vitally important then that green building materials be used. However, it is reducing the energy consumption of buildings that reaps the most benefits environmentally.

According to the Department of Energy, electricity demand is expected to grow almost 9 percent per year until 2009. With no immediate alternative for costly fuel, this means our country's dependence on expensive energy will continue. This underscores the importance of a monitoring and managing system that evaluates how buildings consume energy. This system is called Energy Management System (EMS).

What is EMS?

Every business enterprise needs energy to run its operations and to make money.

An energy management system balances the sources and consumption of energy to achieve the least cost, whether the energy sources may be electricity, gas, oil, coal, wind or any form of energy. The consumer of energy can be an industrial system or a commercial establishment among others.

How is it done?

Energy management system is a system of computer-aided tools used to monitor, control and optimize the performance of the generation and/or transmission system. The system uses direct digital control (DDC), which refers to the application of microprocessor technology to building environmental controls. With DDC it is possible to control heating and cooling functions with software that considers many variables, thereby achieving greater efficiency.

DDCs were first developed in the 1970s in response to the energy crunch. Today, all modern HVAC equipment are digitally controlled and EMSs are a common feature of large buildings because they offer efficient operations that can pay for themselves within two to three years, according to industry groups.

In the case of buildings, where air-conditioning represents about 60 percent and lighting about 20 percent of the total energy demand, the system provides the most effective way to manage energy use and consumption.

What can it do?

Direct digital control (DDC) registers temperature measurements and compares them to the desired settings (setpoints), calculates the required response if the two are not equal, and sends out news signals to correct for any difference. Start/stop control and alarm reporting are also part of DDC's functions.

Some systems manage fan systems, controlling the supply and return fan speeds and fan discharge temperature. Some require humidity and/or exhaust fan control, as well as energy recovery. This means using the available heating or cooling from the exhaust air to heat or cool the outside air that is being drawn into the building by the supply fans.

DDC also controls most chillers, some interior and exterior lights, most hot water and chilled water pumps and some cooling tower fans.

Benefits

By using DDC, historical records can be developed on the operating features of the building. This means identifying trends that can lead to better performance.

DDC also allows for comprehensive alarm system in case of a mechanical system malfunction. It also saves time by eliminating the need to change various time clocks for holidays and schedule changes.

In addition, DDC replaces pneumatic controllers that tend to drift out of calibration and suffer from "offset" or inaccurate readings.

What happened to the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001 was highly unusual. However, in the face of growing threats of terrorism that is plaguing the whole world, it might be worth it to consider installing a sophisticated energy management system in our buildings and commercial establishments, not only to save energy but possibly to save lives.

(The author is the chair of the board of judges of the Asean Energy Awards 2005 and is a practising green architect. For comments or inquiries, e-mail amadodejesus@gmail.com.)

TELEKOM Malaysia Headquarters Building, first runner-up in the Asean Energy Awards 2005, features an Integrated Building Management System (IBMS) integrating energy management system, high voltage monitoring system, plumbing control, lighting control, lift control, fire alarm, central vacuum and document conveying system. The shape of the tower was strongly influenced by a new sprout of bamboo.

Creba-La Salle real estate program opens Nov. 12

WHATEVER THEY DO IN THE REAL estate industry—as property developers, builders, planners, professionals, even taxpayers, buyers and owners—there's a lot to learn for participants in this special diploma program in real estate management.

The Chamber of Real Estate and Builders Associations (Creba) and the De La Salle College of Saint Benilde School of Professional and Continuing Education announced the second module of the postbaccalaureate diploma program in real estate management. It will be held every Saturday—from Nov. 12 to Dec. 17—on the 9th floor, CSB International Conference Center, Estrada Street corner Arellano St., Malate, Manila.

MAGNO

DELORIA

Speakers

The module covers real estate laws and regulations. Speakers are:

- Lawyer Amado B. Deloria, former HLURB commissioner for adjudication, and the module coordinator, doctrines in land ownership, land titles, patents and deeds; Prof. Roque "Popoy" Arrieta-Magno, former HLURB commissioner and professorial lecturer at the UP School of Urban and Regional Planning, and the overall program director, Local Government Code: land use planning and zoning, and approval of land development plans.
- Lawyer Dunstan San Vicente, head, HLURB legal and adjudication division, registration, licensing, monitoring and clearances; lawyer Bernardo Marino Torres, HLURB attorney, homeowners associations and intra-corporate disputes; lawyer Arturo M. Dublado, head, HLURB appeals review group, HLURB adjudication process; lawyer Melchor Magdamo, consultant for legal affairs, Department of Land Reform, Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law.
- Lawyer Ma. Luisa Pangan, HLURB arbiter and monitoring unit had for NCR, urban land reform; lawyer Victorino C. Mamalateo, former BIR commissioner and senior partner, Punongbayan & Araullo Accounting & Law Office, taxation on real estate transactions; and Deloria, leasing and tenant relations and real estate forms and contracts.

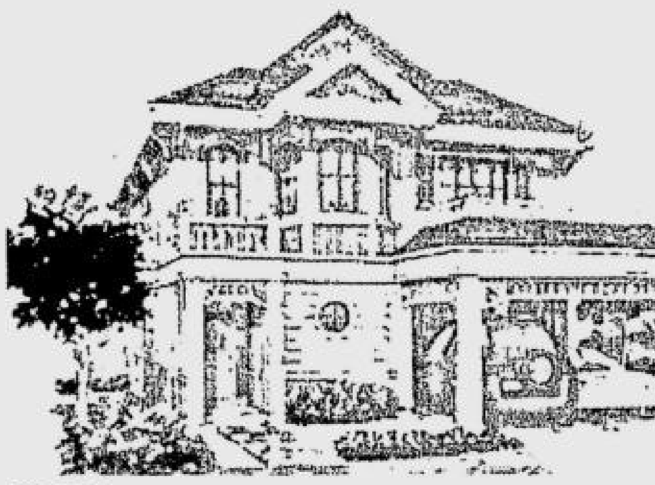
Most important know-how

The module's overall goal is to provide participants with the most important know-how in property documentation, taxation, owner-buyer relations and similar aspects of property, all geared to positive solutions to disputes and protection of rights.

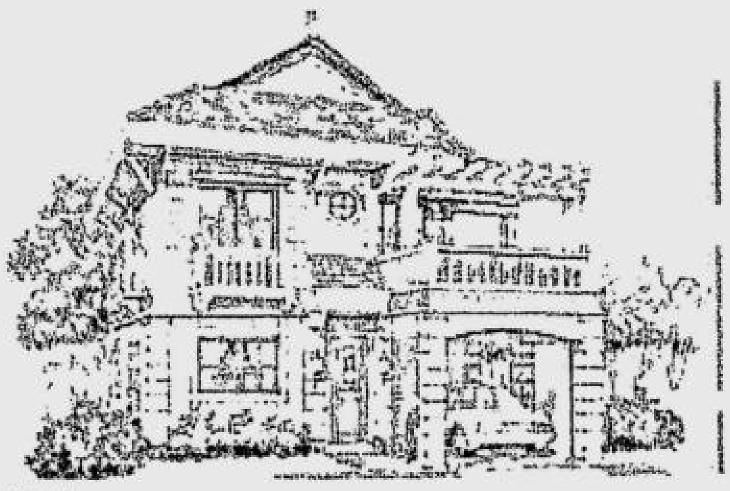
Other modules in succeeding months will be on real estate and environmental planning, appraisal and property management, real estate planning and development, and real estate financing and investments.

Participants earn accredited units under the continuing education program for licensed real estate brokers, appraisers, consultants and other professionals. Successful completion of six modules entitles a participant to a diploma in real estate management jointly given by the DLS-CSB and Creba. Completion of each certificate course entitles the participant to a certificate of achievement.

For inquiries, please call 400-5425, 523-8888 loc. 341/342 or e-mail space@dis-csb.edu.ph; call 373-2270 to 75 or e-mail creba-inc@yahoo.com.



NICOLE



CAMILLE

Baypoint Estates a home with history

PLAYING A VITAL ROLE IN KEY EVENTS IN Philippine history, Kawit is a picturesque town with well-preserved monuments and landmarks, as well as a town with its own unique cultural heritage. At home with history, such is the inspiration behind Baypoint Estates, a 23-hectare master-planned residential and commercial community at the heart of Kawit, Cavite.

Choose from elegant houses in American Colonial architecture in Southern Californian themed subdivision with premiere amenities in a secure and peaceful gated community.

Experience both the best of city living and country comforts right at home. Today, Kawit is one of Cavite's most progressive coastal towns. The province itself has become a leading industrial and commercial hub as part of the Cavite Export Processing Zone.

Access roads

Through the many access roads from Kawit, one can easily reach the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, the Makati and Manila CBDs and nearby provinces, making it even more attractive as a place of business. With the approaching completion of the Cavite Coastal Road extension, Kawit has become a window to Metro Manila.

There are two other major roadways that connect Kawit. Daang Hari road connects Kawit, Cavite directly to Alabang, Muntinlupa and southern Tagalog provinces. And the Cavite Expressway connects Kawit, Cavite to Tagaytay City.

Strategic location

Truly strategically located, everything is within reach from Baypoint Estates. Schools, hospitals, major shopping centers, resorts, leisure and recreational establishments are just minutes away from home.

The newest neighbor moving into town is St. Paul University of Manila, which will be just directly across Baypoint Estates. The university serves as the anchor institution of the area, making Kawit a future university town. It will offer classes from preschool all the way to the graduate level.

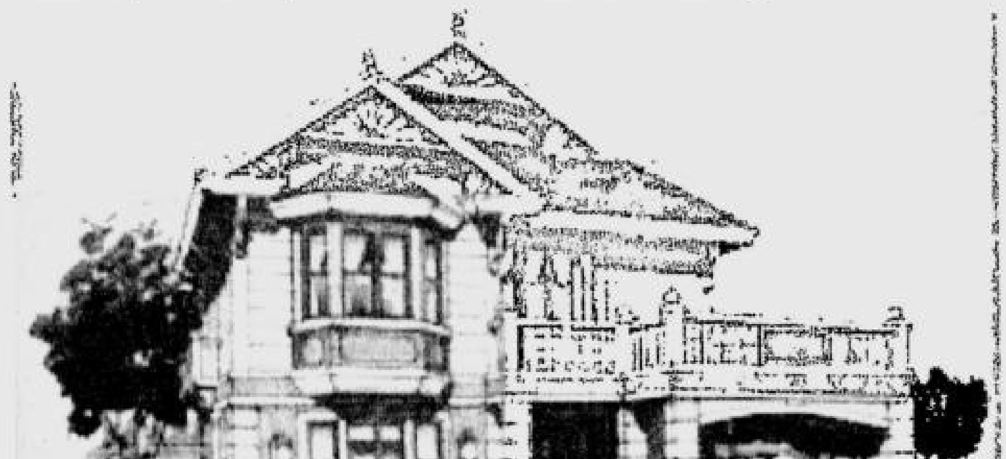
Buyers can choose from among three elegant house models on lots ranging from 1,600 to 3,200 square feet. Homeowners can also choose to build a home of their own concept so long as it blends with the neighborhood's design scheme.

Valuable investment

With the trend for development area south of Manila, 90 percent of land available in the southern Tagalog is in Cavite, also Manila. Baypoint Estates is the first of a series of upscale residential communities that will be developed in the area, making it a valuable investment since property values are expected to further appreciate in the coming years.

To ensure the high quality of the development, Baypoint Estates has harnessed the experience and expertise of top architects from RMDA Architects Model Homes and urban planners from Palafox and Associates to give life to the shared vision of providing the Filipino family a dream home.

Endorsed by engineer Enrico Cruz, real estate mentor of many years, Baypoint Estate is really an investment that values accessibility, safety and comfort. To learn more about how you can finally have a place to call home, call United Realty Brokers and Appraisers Network (Urbanet) at 681-0928, 681-0953, 0916-4269174, or e-mail at urbanet@pacific.net.ph.



DANIELLE

Aeropolis New Manila launches new residential condo tower

LPHI will launch this month the second tower of its Aeropolis New Manila condominium project in Quezon City. The tower will have studios and two-bedroom units with lofts on select floors.

STRONG DEMAND FOR AFFORDABLE residential condominiums in superior city locations has prodded property developer Laguna Properties Holdings Inc. to speed up the development of Aeropolis New Manila.

With only a few units left in the project's first tower that was launched barely a year ago, the Ayala Land subsidiary is offering a second tower this November. LPHI officials are confident that the second tower will likewise be warmly received by the market.

Their optimism arises from reports that pegged the housing need at 1.6 million units a year in Metro Manila in 2001-2004. According to the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council's figures, housing need in the entire country was estimated at 3.60 million units from 2001-2004 with the bulk concentrated in Metro Manila.

Offering amortizations of as low as P9,900 a month for a 20-sq-m studio, LPHI has won a following from among young couples, professionals as well as OFWs, according to Chris Maglanoc, LPHI condominiums division manager.

Raising standards

The leading provider of homes in the P1 to P2 million price range celebrates its 15th anniversary this month. It will continue to differentiate itself from other players in this segment by drawing from its Ayala Land heritage of reliability and integrity, thus raising standards in the affordable housing market.

Set for completion in first quarter of 2009, Aeropolis New Manila's second tower will offer one-and two-bedroom units with lofts on select floors in response to the needs of young families for more space. Also to be introduced are bigger studio and one-bedroom units in the typical floors.

Affordability and quality have distinguished LPHI's Aeropolis towers. The 20-sq-m studio units in New Manila's second tower are priced at around P1.1 million and the 45- to 49-sq-m two-bedroom units at P2.7 million. Two adjacent studio units can be joined together to create a bigger space. All units are well-ventilated and naturally illuminated with panoramic windows and high ceilings—qualities that put Aeropolis a cut above its competitors.

Aeropolis New Manila is a stone's throw away from the Cubao commercial district and the Greenhills Shopping Center. It is centrally located and a few minutes away ride via the MRT to Makati.

Top universities in Quezon City like the Ateneo de Manila University, Miriam College and the University of the Philippines are a few minutes drive away too.

The multitower development in the 1.2 hectares of prime land promises more than just a roof over the head of its buyers.

Amenity core

Aeropolis New Manila has a third-story podium that will connect to all the five towers which will be built on the property.

It will also feature Zen-inspired pocket gardens and a jogging path where residents can exercise, rest, unwind and be spiritually uplifted.

The amenity core will include a multipurpose hall, an infinity pool for adults and kids, and a children's playground. Aeropolis' tree-lined main driveway ends in a rotunda with a water feature to welcome guests and soothe residents.

Like other LPHI developments, Aeropolis New Manila offers residents excellent property management even after units have been turned over to clients, 24-hour security, and adequate water and power supply. For more information about Aeropolis New Manila's Tower 2, call 864-5744 or 788-0951 for more details.

Bonifacio Ridge: bridges for the family

FAMILY VALUES, FAMILY TRADITIONS and family time. These concepts are almost left behind in the challenging and fast-paced race of city living. Bonifacio Ridge, a prime residential condominium managed and marketed by Ayala Land, makes family a top priority.

Eighteen floors of two-bedroom units of luxurious but homey living at Bonifacio Ridge encourages and promotes the strengths and possibilities for the valued unit of the family.

Strategic location

Its strategic location in Bonifacio Global City offers easy links to other business areas in the metro. In the heart of the fastest developing community, Bonifacio Ridge provides quality space, not only within its own borders but within immediate surroundings as well. It is also high enough to command the best views, one of which includes the vast golf course of Manila Golf Club.

This convenience draws young and ambitious couples who desire a stylish place with a prominent address, and also value their future family's wants and needs.

Bonifacio Ridge is undeniably the answer for those who wish to nurture and raise their families within safe and comfortable confines. After all, how can one resist the playground, pools and gardens just below one's home? While reading a book in the comfort of your own home, feel secure in knowing that your child is safely enjoying his swim below.

The graceful two-tower residential condominium is connected by a spacious 4,000-square-meter landscaped podium designed to feel like an extension of the adjacent Manila golf course. The greenery at the podium level encourages relaxation and reflective thoughts.

Powerful message

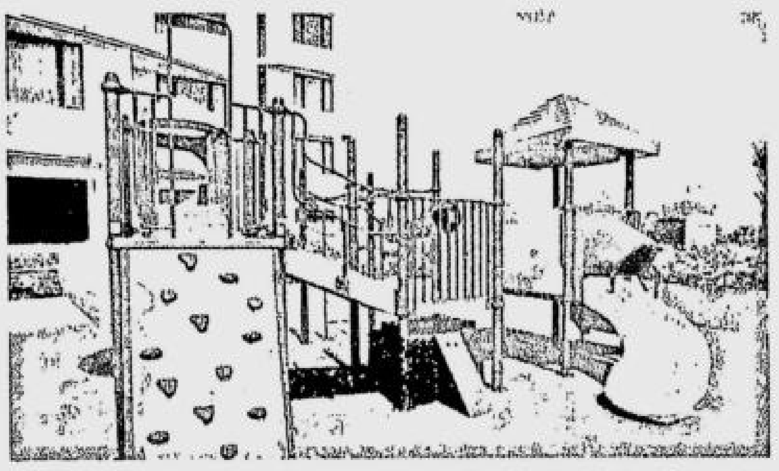
Take a moment to sit back amid nature and forget about appointments and deadlines. Enjoy the patter of children's feet as they run through the foliage. This is also the perfect place for sharing simple conversations with our children and each other, sending the powerful message: Family is important.

For the athletes in the family, a jogging path and a huge swimming pool is sure to challenge. For the children who never fail to bring laughter into our lives, a kiddie pool together with playground is a definite delight. There is also a spacious multi-purpose hall for the frequent celebrations of life.

True value for money

Bonifacio Ridge has faithfully adhered to the examples set by the Ayala Land Premier projects. The superior address, the kid-friendly recreational facilities and security features all combined with a stylish home offer true value for money and are undeniably irresistible.

BONIFACIO Ridge pool



BONIFACIO Ridge playpen

Ayala Land Premier is the country's leading high-end residential real estate developer. Its properties are designed with an unwavering commitment to quality and service, which continue to surpass the expectations of the company's diverse market.

Bonifacio Ridge is a prime residential condominium within the city that offers first-rate amenities and recreational facilities that meet the diverse lifestyles of its residents. To know more about Bonifacio Ridge, call 728-7000, e-mail ayala-sales@ayalaland.com.ph or visit www.ayalaland.com.ph.

How to set up a real estate brokerage office

A SERIES OF SEMINARS ON "HOW TO Start and Manage a Successful Realty Office" will be conducted by the Urban Institute of Real Estate. First of this series will be on Nov. 18, from 1:30 to 6 p.m., at Bulwagang Alfonso, Josephines Restaurant, located at Panamitan, Kawit, Cavite.

The seminar series is in cooperation with Progressive Homes Inc., developer of Baypoint Estates, a 23-hectare modern residential community located in the historical town of Kawit, Cavite.

Topics

Among the topics are sources and how to secure properties for selling; needed documents such as authority to sell; requirements to be entitled to commission; how to safeguard your commission; how to start and close a transaction; sales organizational structures; sales personnel recruitment techniques; training programs; and advancement and career path programs.

Other topics are commission structures, awards and other incentives; how to do real estate networking; real estate associations; franchising; business operations; real estate brokerage, terminologies, definition of real estate professionals, qualifications and licensing requirements, subjects covered in the licensing examination; and penalties for illegal practice, duties of a professional to his clients.

For other details and venues, call Urban Institute at 681-0928 or 0916-426-9174 or e-mail urbanet@pacific.net.ph.

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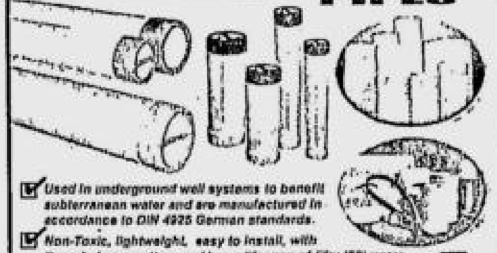

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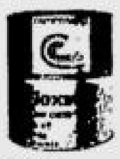

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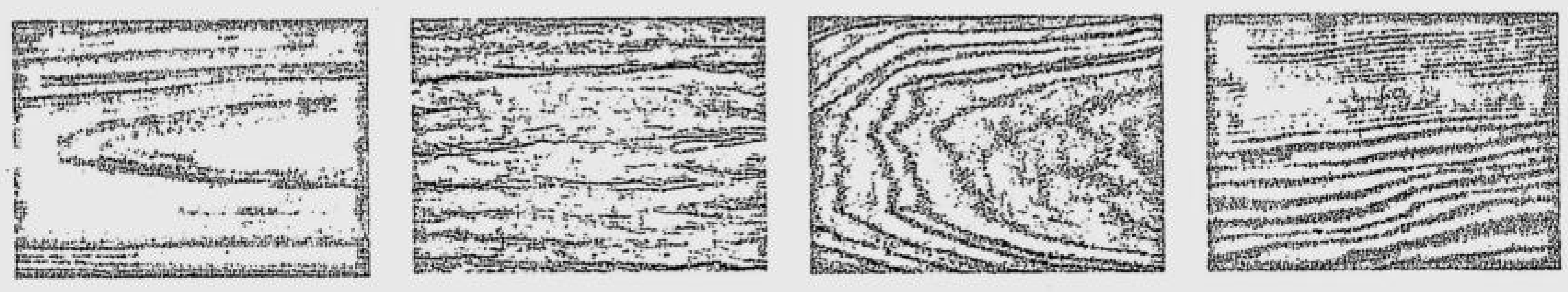

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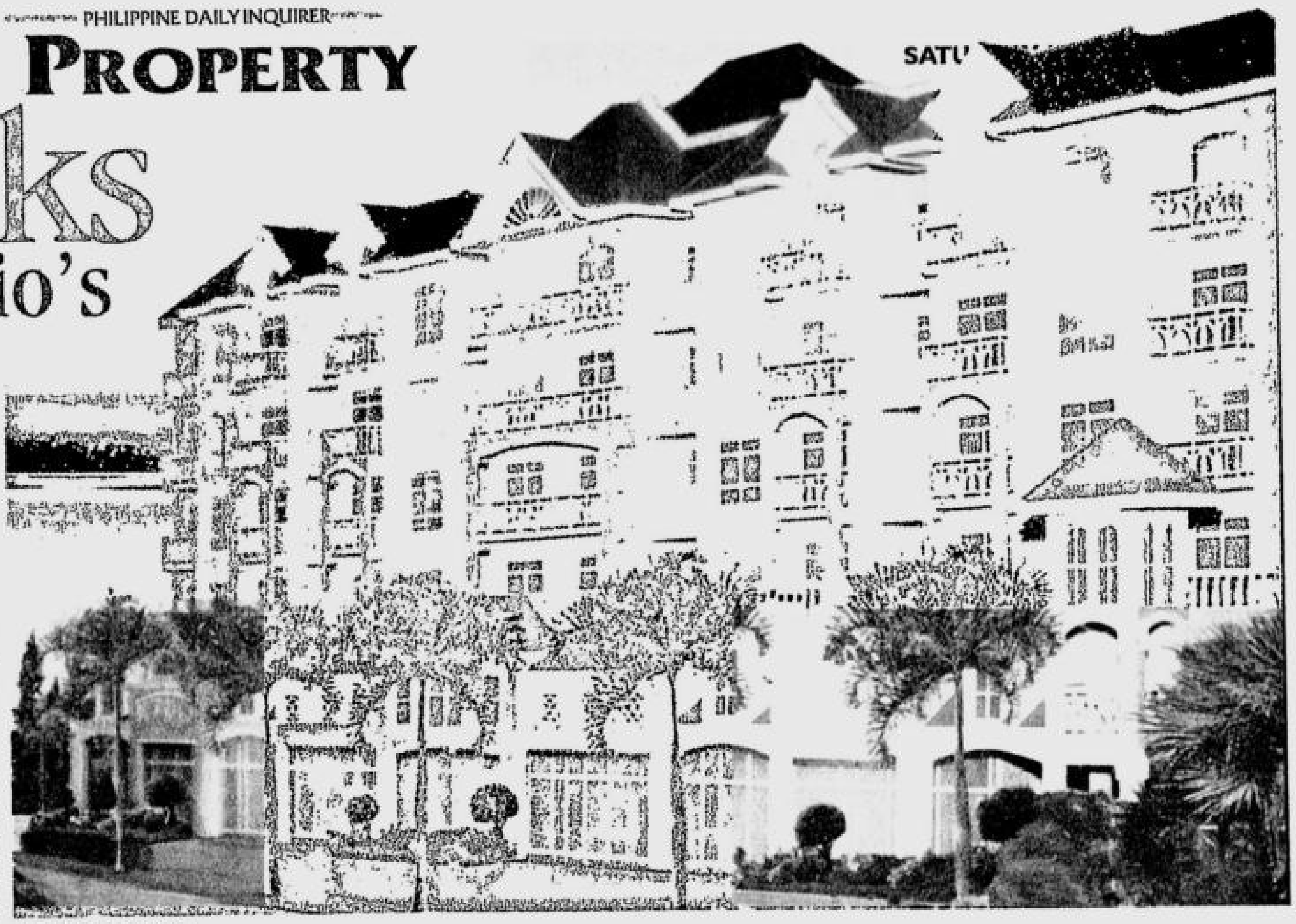
Crown Asia marks timely success of Presidio's first tower



DA VINCI Tower

ALREADY KNOWN FOR ITS 10-year track record for creating master-planned neighborhoods, Crown Asia redefines urban living with the creation of its first vertical project, Presidio at Brittany Bay. The dreams of hundreds of families will soon be fulfilled with the full-blown construction of the Da Vinci Tower, Presidio's first tower to be promptly delivered to its homeowners by March 2006.

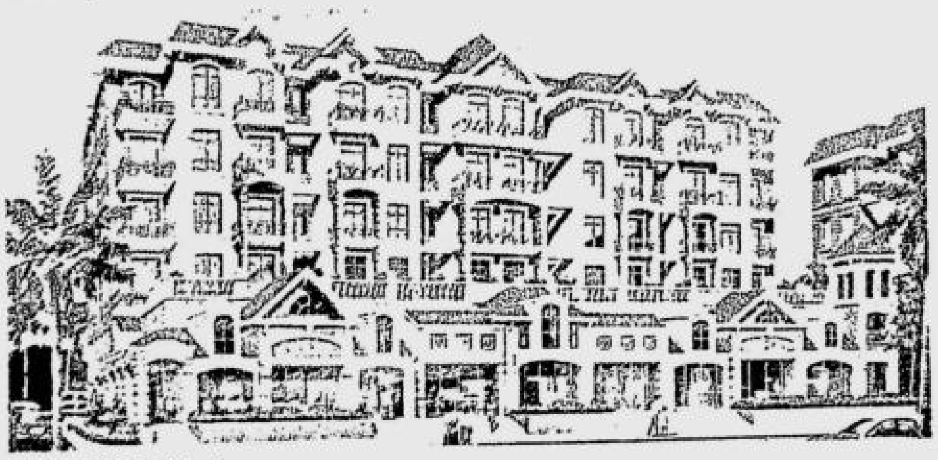
A recently held topping off ceremony celebrated Crown Asia's triumph at ensuring the right on schedule construction of the first tower. Major partners, project consultants and Crown Asia division heads joined the festivities while a spectacular fireworks display announced the timely success of Presidio's Da Vinci Tower.

A 6.8-hectare "city by the bay," Presidio at Brittany Bay draws inspiration from San Francisco's neo-Victorian architecture to create its symphony of 16 towers interplaying in height and size with its selection of low- and mid-rise condominiums. The self-contained multilevel hub by the bay is a manifestation of the urbanite's thriving careers and busy lifestyles.

5 model towers

Presidio caters to progressive urban living with its selection of commercial and residential condominiums starting with five model towers to choose from:

- **Da Vinci Tower.** Presidio's first tower already under construction, the Da Vinci is a comfortable, charming mixed-use condo with creative space utilization suited for professional singles of young families. Commercial areas occupy the ground level of the five-story condo, with two model units available in 42- and 56-sq-m floor area priced at P1.8 million and P2.6 million respectively, or one can choose to combine two or more adjacent units.
- **Rembrandt Tower.** Another mixed-use condo of ingenious design and architecture, the Rembrandt presents a feeling of exclusivity and avoids clutter with only five units per floor. It also provides the luxury of bigger unit sizes, the inclusion of basic appliances along with added features.
- **Picasso Tower.** A prestigious garden condo residence with highlights such as walkways left open to cool air and surrounded by lush greens. The garden-inspired Picasso Tower, is a three-winged seven-story rise with model units available in 39-sq-m floor area with one bedroom and 51 sq m with two bedrooms. Prices range from P1.7 to P2.3 million.
- **Michelangelo Tower.** A 10-story versatile garden condo rise, the Michelangelo Tower offers the largest selection of model units: the typical model units suited for independent individuals, ranging from 28- to 39-sq-m floor area with one bedroom; the loft-type or bi-level units provided with elegant floor design and garden units, ranging from 50 to 68 sq m available in one- to three- bedroom cuts; and the penthouse units equipped with expansive living space, ranging from 55- to 75-sq-m floor area with one to two bedrooms. Prices range from P1.4 to P5 million.



PRESIDIO Da Vinci

- **Monet Tower.** Completing this "city by the bay" is the Monet, the tallest among the y-shaped garden condo rise found in the heart of the development. Its three-winged 12-story structure offers the best vista of the bay and mountains.

Market reception

At present, Crown Asia is selling the Picasso, Michelangelo and Monet Towers after its first two towers, the Da Vinci and Rembrandt sold out in a year. The market's great reception of Presidio is testament to the growing list of career-driven urbanites and families dreaming of a themed home and comfortable lifestyle.

Presidio is distinguished from other space-deprived condominiums with the incorporation of nature with the practicality of vertical living. Residents enjoy the constant cool breeze from Laguna de Bay, watch the sun setting in the horizon and have a beautiful vista of the Sierra Madre Mountains. Unspoiled nature is married with lush landscaping and courtyards surrounding the community, and with quaint gardens in select units.

Convenient location

Located at the boundary of bustling Sucat and thriving city of Taguig, Presidio's convenient location is only five minutes away from Alabang, 15 minutes from Ninoy Aquino International Airport, 20 minutes from Makati and Global City, and a mere 30-minute drive from Ortigas, via South Super Highway and C5.

Upon completion of the C-6 construction travel time will be cut by half. Rehabilitation and modernization of the South Metro Rail Transit System will reduce travel time from Caloocan to Alabang to 30 minutes.

Experience the affordable luxury of city living by the lake when you visit Presidio at Brittany Bay. Property previews may be arranged by calling Crown Towers at 718-3400 and 718-3402.

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Editor **Cesar D. Mangawang**

A forest of tree houses

AMAZING STRUCTURES

WHEN PIET BLOM WAS ASKED TO design a housing development to maximize the space on a pedestrian walkway, little did everyone expect that the town will be having a forest of tree houses.

And his are not the typical tree houses, mind you. Think of a bunch of Rubik's Cubes tilted on one corner balancing threateningly on poles.

Must-see attraction

The Amsterdam-born Blom's "treehouses" are everything but menacing, though, being a must-see attraction in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Sitting on hexagon-shaped pole structures, the cubes are split into three levels. The triangle-shaped first level, with sloping windows providing a complete view of the street below, accommodates the living room, a small kitchen and dining area, a small toilet and a study area while the middle and upper levels contain the bedrooms, bathroom and extra living space.

Terrific view

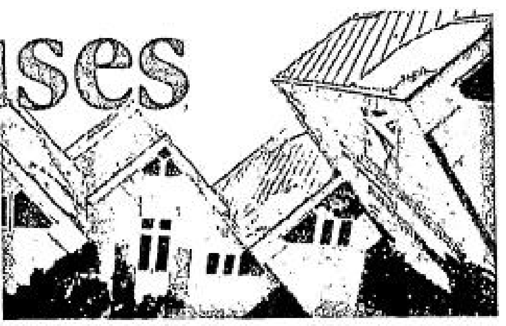
The top level, an apex with a three-sided pyramid surrounded by windows, also gives a terrific view and can also be used as a lounging or play area with the great amount of sunlight it lets in.

The poles on which these cube houses sit on serve as entryways to the houses aside from providing storage spaces for the tenants.

The poles are made of concrete pillars with concrete brick walls serving as fillings. The cubes are constructed with using wooden skeletons with rockwool insulation. These are then covered with screwed cement and wood fiberboards as protection from the elements. The cubes' charm and appeal are attributed to zinc panels complemented by double-glazed windows.

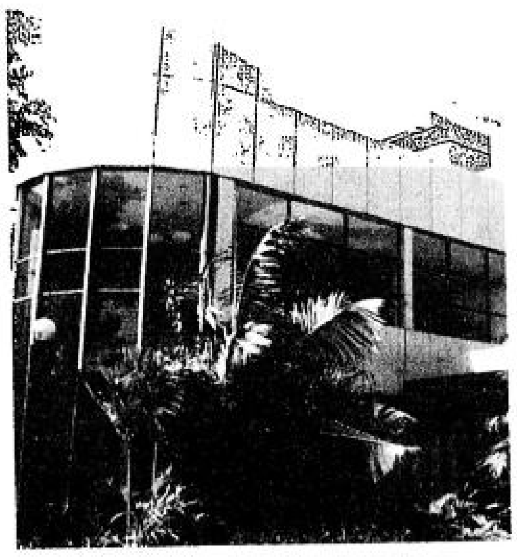
Downstairs are small-scale businesses, shops, a school and a children's playground.

Dianne M. Villafuerte



SLOPING windows

ROTTERDAM'S forest of treehouses



THE TECHNOPARK Hotel located inside Greenfield Auto Park, is a welcome addition to Greenfield City as it caters to a large number of clientele all over Calabarzon.

GREENFIELD CITY

A growing metropolis

PROPERTY DEVELOPER GREENFIELD DEvelopment Corp.'s unwavering dedication to creating masterplanned communities continues to attract foreign and local investors and locators to its many projects. This is especially helpful to its Laguna-based Greenfield City, which is already a thriving commercial, residential, industrial and recreational zone.

It is also starting new communities within its vicinity, which is shaping up to be the Makati business district of the Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon) area.

The 65-hectare Greenfield Auto Park (GAP) is an industrial estate that is home base to automobile company Ford Motor Philippines, among other high-profile investors. GDC's vice president for suburban development Duane Santos offered that it's also unusual to have an industrial park as centrally located as GAP.

Ideally located

Said Santos: "Most industrial parks are in far-flung areas, where the next commercial establishment is miles away; you're practically in the middle of nowhere. Here, it's ideally located. Aside from being next to Ford and other major institutions, the location is just unparalleled. It's a masterplanned mixed-use development, which none of the other industrial parks are."

Nearby is the Automall, a 5-hectare retail automotive center providing all the services, products and accessories for automotive-related establishments.

"The Automall will have dealerships, service centers, accessory stores, even secondhand car-selling establishments. They're all in this integrated community, which is similar to Quezon City's Banawe district, but definitely more manicured and more pristine, and a bit more organized," he said.

The Technopark Hotel, which caters to a large number of clientele from the area, is also inside the Greenfield Auto Park. According to Santos, the Technopark group constructed it themselves, but it's a very welcome addition to the Greenfield City project. "It validates our vision of a new city, and we need hotels to make the city grow," he said.

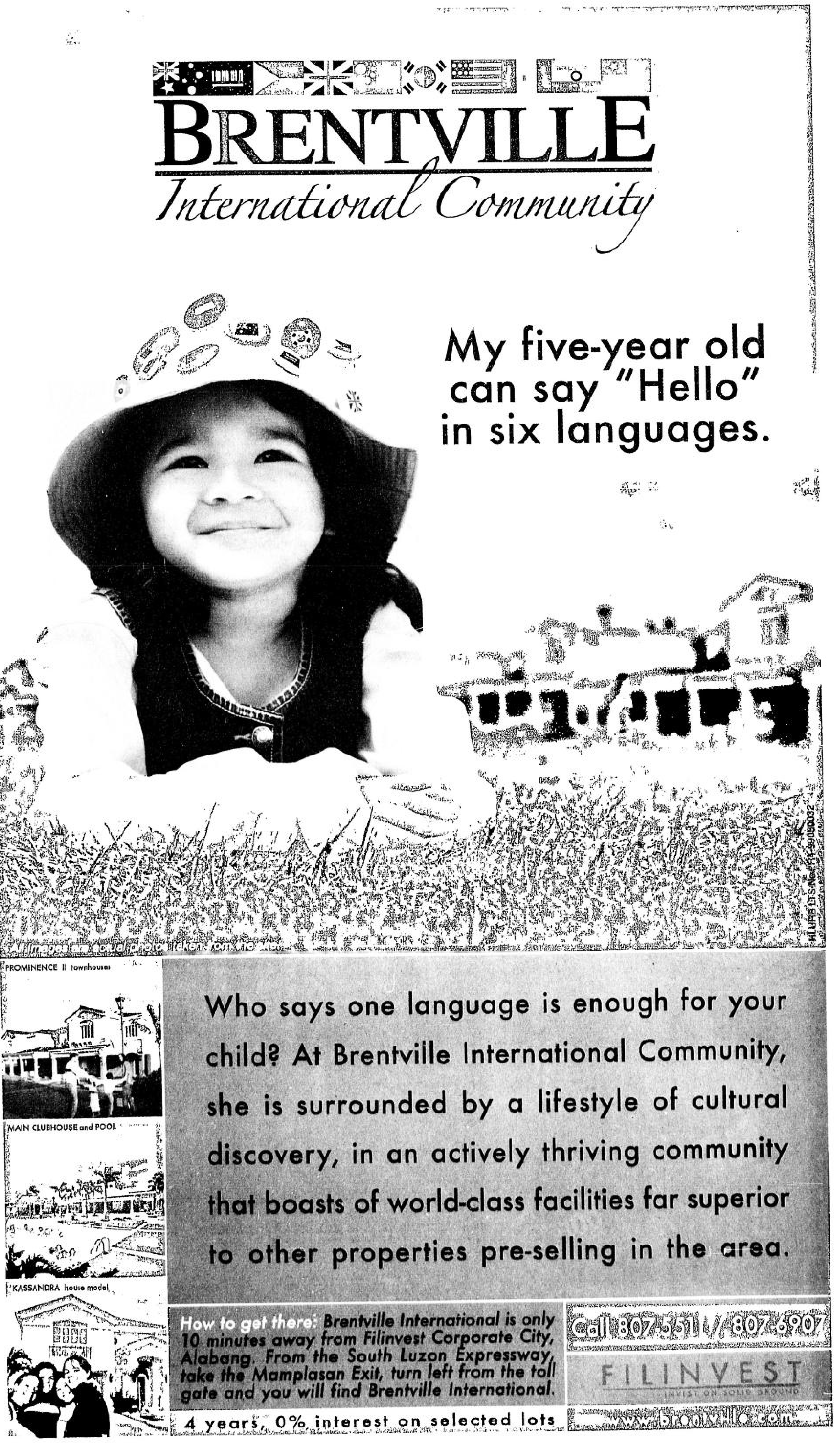
Ongoing projects

GDC has a number of different ongoing projects for Greenfield City. Before the yearend, The Garland development, its residential component, will be opened for sale.

There will be more commercial establishments, as Paseo 1 and 2 will be followed by Paseo 3 (an extension of the town complex that will open by March 2006), and Laguna Central.

GDC is also in a mature stage of negotiations with mall developers to build a higher-density commercial center to complement the low-density Paseo de Santa Rosa project.

For further information on these and other GDC projects, please call 631-8651, email marketing@greenfield.com.ph, or log on to www.greenfield.com.ph.


BRENTVILLE
International Community

My five-year old can say "Hello" in six languages.

PROMINENCE II townhouses

MAIN CLUBHOUSE and POOL

KASSANDRA house model

Who says one language is enough for your child? At Brentville International Community, she is surrounded by a lifestyle of cultural discovery, in an actively thriving community that boasts of world-class facilities far superior to other properties pre-selling in the area.

How to get there: Brentville International is only 10 minutes away from Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang. From the South Luzon Expressway, take the Mamplasan Exit, turn left from the toll gate and you will find Brentville International.

4 years, 0% interest on selected lots

Call 807-5511 / 807-6907

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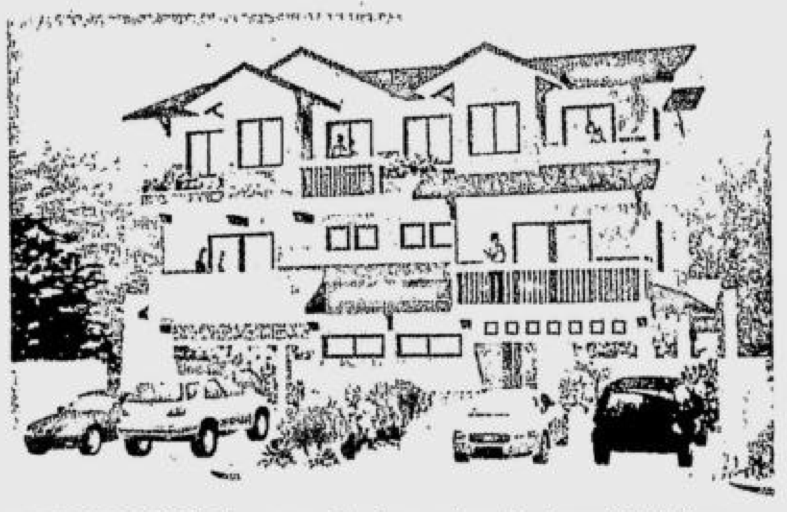
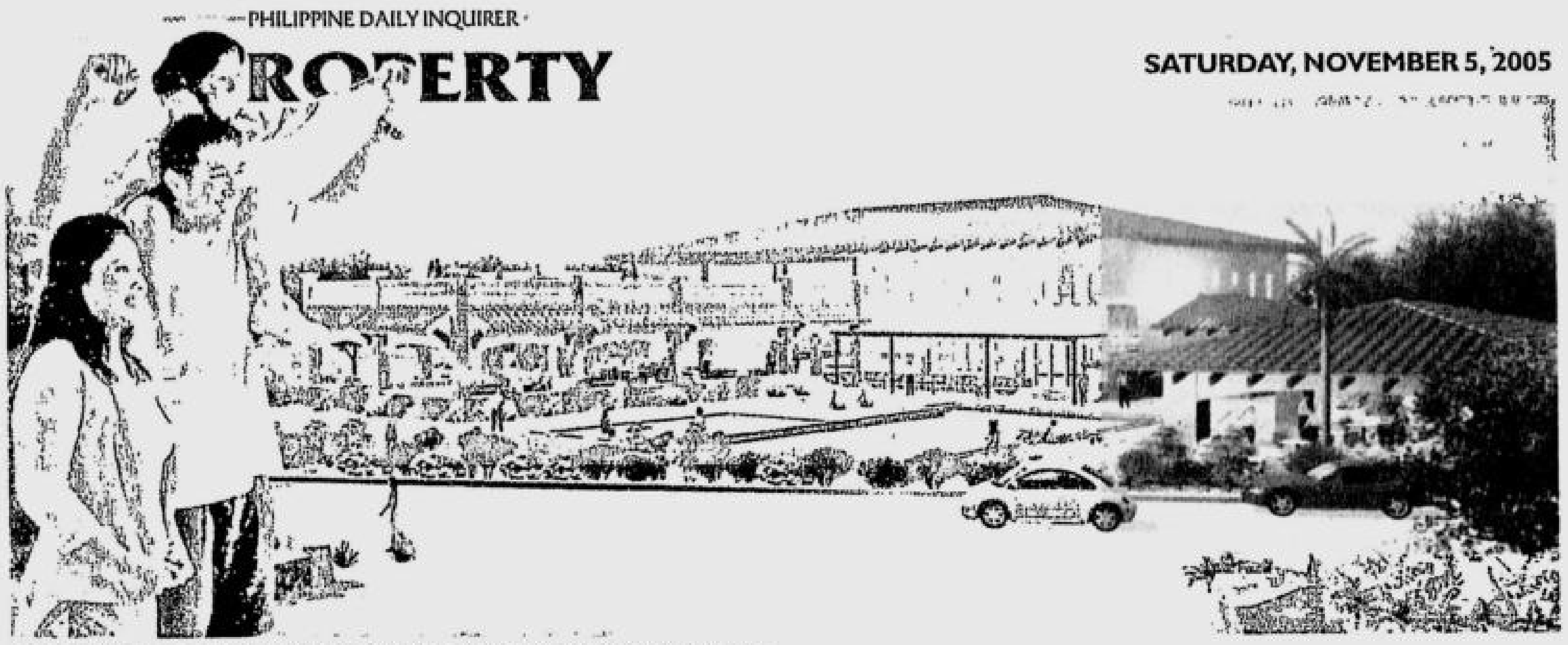


WITH 232 SQUARE meters, the three-story duplex unit Cristina provides well-thought spaces that suits the needs of a family.



RESIDENTS can relax at Mahogany Place's ranch-inspired clubhouse.

DMCI Homes introduces a 'walkable' community

WHERE THERE ARE TREES TO blunt the harshness of the sun and grass to soften the impact of feet pounding on surface, walking—or jogging or biking whichever you prefer—will always be a pleasurable experience.

At Mahogany Place in Taguig City, another innovative development by acclaimed masterplanner DMCI Homes, the intent to provide an ideal atmosphere to induce and inspire walking as a healthy habit is a major consideration in the overall scheme of things.

'Walkable' community

"Our plan for Mahogany Place is to introduce it as a 'walkable' community, one that encourages leisurely walking as a healthy alternative to driving when going from one place to another inside the development because it is safe and comfortable to do so," said DMCI Homes' managing director Alfredo Austria.

Thus, one will find tree-lined walks, well-landscaped promenades, riverside parks, public gardens with gazebos, and manicured lawns inside Mahogany Place when it gets operational.

The community, according to Austria, will be teeming with trees and greens not just only for esthetics but to serve as natural shades over walking, jogging and biking paths as well. "We want to create an inviting, pleasant atmosphere for pedestrians," he said.

Mahogany Place stands out with its privileged location as well as it is situated less than one kilometer away from C-5 and within a short driving distance of Makati, The Fort Global City and Ortigas Center. Should it strike the homeowner's mood, a night out with friends in a classy music bar or a fancy dinner for the entire family in a high-end restaurant is just a quick drive away.

A mix of housing types

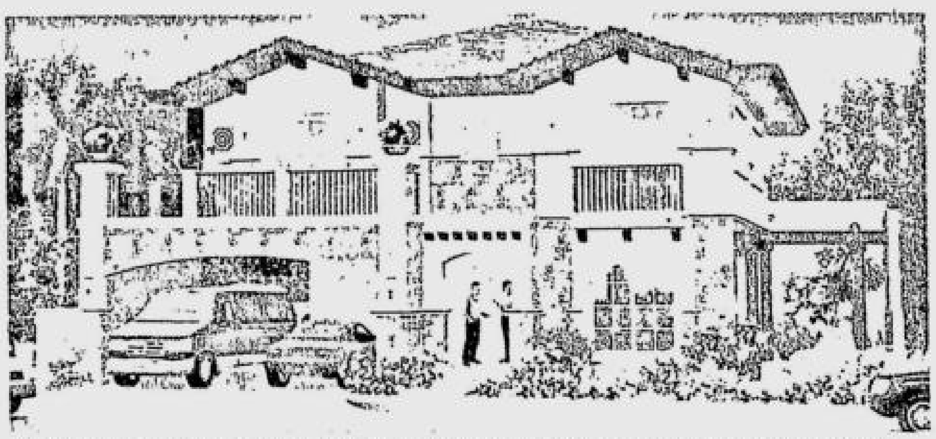
Mahogany Place, Austria said, offers a mix of housing types within the community. With a selection of single-detached and duplex houses and townhouses, it provides a wide range of choices for home buyers.

"Not only does a mix of housing types serve people with different housing needs and means, it also adds variety to the place and makes the community a lot more visually interesting," Austria explained.

He said the single-detached and duplex houses offer maximum living options on floor plans covering three to four bedrooms, two to three bathrooms, living, dining and kitchen areas, carports and some extra space to accommodate a patio, family den and a roof deck.

"Mahogany Place will be a private and small community of 453 house units over a 7.2-hectare property," he said.

Accordingly, Mahogany Place, taking on the unique resort-type ambience each DMCI Homes' development is noted for, has allotted a lot of room as well for country club-type of amenities.



BEATRICE is a 2-story single detached unit that provides ample space for parking.

Safe haven

As security is also an integral component of each of the company's development, top-of-the-line electric fencing system will be built into the property's perimeter fence to keep trespassers at bay, said Austria.

Entrances will be guarded in a 24-hour surveillance to make Mahogany Place a safe haven where homeowners will find, to their own peace of mind, that security is the least of their problems.

"Mahogany Place is committed to building sound structures not only to provide shelter from the elements but to create living and thriving communities as well," Austria said.

Ponderosa Leisure Farms offering cluster of new lots

PONDEROSA LEISURE FARMS, THE country's first exclusive flower garden village, continues to grow to new heights, offering a cluster of new lots located at the highest locations of the blooming Mexican-Spanish garden community.

Located on rolling terrain, the new lots offer a better view, as well as proximity to the village's commercial area—the Plaza Maravilla commercial center, Las Rosas al fresco dining area and the Village Store.

Garden community

A development by Landco Pacific Corp., Ponderosa features streets lined with young pine trees and bougainvillea. Among completed amenities are the Plaza Maria Luisa rotunda fountain, the Plaza Bougainvillea entrance plaza, two themed gardens and the Casa Ponderosa model house.

Designed by HBO+EMTB, the model house features a courtyard, terraced vegetable and herb garden and three bedrooms, in a charming mix of modern and classic Mexican and Spanish architecture. Lot owners, inspired by the beauty and functionality of Casa Ponderosa, have already begun building their homes.

The two themed gardens are El Refugio, which features a small pond and waterfall, and teahouse, and El Sanctuario, which features a secret garden, grotto, pavilion and a walkway blooming with pine trees and various flowering plants.

Under construction

Currently under construction are the Villa Ponderosa clubhouse and swimming pool, and the Campo Verde campsite, which will feature an outdoor barbecue area.

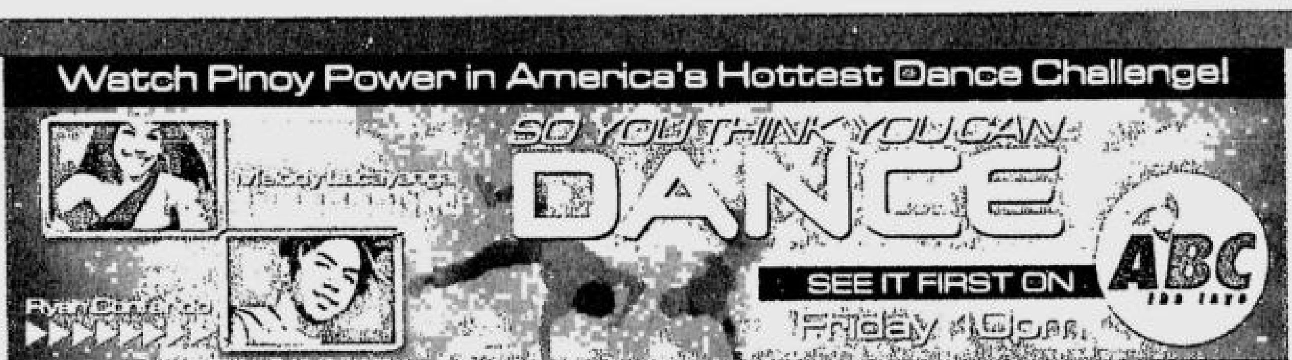
Ponderosa Leisure Farms is equipped with complete utilities—electricity, water, and round-the-clock security.

A land of roses and a paradise of beauty, colors and scents in the cool breezy fields of Silang, Cavite, Ponderosa Leisure Farms is just 46 kilometers from Metro Manila.

For more information, please call Landco Pacific at 809-3853.

INQUIRER TV GUIDE

Saturday, November 5, 2005

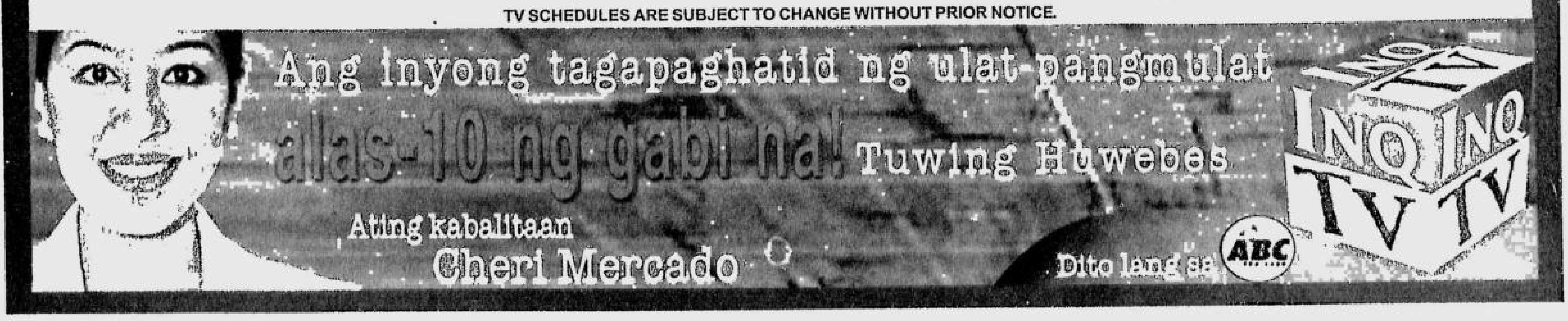


Watch Pinoy Power in America's Hottest Dance Challenge!

ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
NBN				Corporate Billiards League		Concert at the Park		Tinig ng Bayan (Live)			The Working President	GSIS Member's Hour		UN Summit - PGMA		Paco Park Presents		Auto Focus	
ABS-CBN 2	Entertainment Konek				Nginiig		Little Big Star		My Juan And Only		Quezon Avenue	Magandang Gabi Bayan		TV Patrol World	Pinoy Big Brother	Sabado Movie Greats			
ABC 5		KNN	Anime Ring Kasho		PBA					Mr. Fighting		Blind Item		Wow Maling Mali		Paparazzi		The Custodian	
GMA 7	Startalk			Wish Ko Lang		Wag Kukurap	Pinoy Pop Superstar		Bitoy's Funniest Videos/Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho		Imbestigador		Hokus Pocus			Showbiz Stripped			
RPN 9		Tara Lets	Global Window	Biyaheng Langit	Kids TV	Barangay Bida		Isumbong mo kay Tulfo		Medical Investigation		CSI: Miami		Golden Dove Awards				Money Talk	
IBC 13		Home Shopping Network		Nation's Peacekeeper	Good Take	Home Shopping Network		Pangarap Kong Jackpot		TBA				Biag		Philippine Sabong Sports	Global Family Series	In This Corner	
SBN 21		New Life TV Shopping		Friends Again		Shepherds Voice		EZ Shop		JA1		Oras Ng Himala		Oras ng Katotohanan		Music Video		Oras Ng Himala	
Studio 23								Sports TV	Mr. Bean	Gilmore Girls	Jack & Bobby	The Bachelorette		Studio 23 Present					Reel Deal
MTV Philippines	Hanging Out	MTV Hits	Wade Robson Project	MTV Presents				Homecoming	Punk'D	Wild N' Out	MTV Cribs	MTV Liveware		Chart Attack		Brand New	Massive	Jams	Rockola
MYX		MYX Bandarito	MYX News	MYX Presents		Take 5		Top Of The Pops	Star MYX	MYXILOG	Pop MYX	MYX Live!		Pinoy MYX Countdown				MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX
CNN	World Business This Week	World News	People In The News	World News	World Sport	Larry King Live		World News	International Correspondents	World News	Spark	World News	The Daily Show John Stewart Global Edition	World News	World Sport	World News	Talk Asia	World News	Diplomatic License
ESPN												Sportscenter Asia							
Solar Sports													Sports Desk	US 9-Ball Open 2005					
Sports Plus				Golf Hawaii 2004	Inside the PGA	Lock and Load	Nopi Tunervision	Raceworld		UCI BMX World Championship		Ultimate Fighting Championship				The Tour C'ship Presented By Coca-Cola 02			
Cinemax	A Case For Murder (2:45PM)			Japanese Story (4:15PM)				Another 48 Hrs.			Blue Demon			Battlestar Galactica Mission 5			Battlestar Galactica Mission 6		
Hallmark Channel	Mad About You	The Temptations				The Temptations				Angel In The Family				Riding The Bus With My Sister			Arthur Hailey's Detective		
Disney Channel	Recess	Totally Spies	Lizzie Mcguire	Brandy & Mr. Whiskers	Lilo & Stitch	Totally Spies	Mr. Bean	Phil Of The Future	Suite Life Of Zack And Cody	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney			Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	Phil Of The Future	Even Stevens	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Discovery Channel		Human Discovery		Extreme Machines		Concorde: Anatomy Of Disaster		Hour China		Wild Discovery				Guilty Or Innocent		True Horror		Extreme Discovery	
National Geographic		China Special				Penguin Death Zone		Creature Feature				Mystery Of The Dakar		Leopard Seals		Big Bite Nite			
Cartoon Network		Police Academy	The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	The Road Runner Show	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	Winx Club	Hi Hi Puffy AmiYumi	The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	Samurai Jack				Cartoon Cartoon Show	Crush Gear Nitro	The Gransazers	Justice League	Sealab 2021 (11:15PM)	Aqua Teen Hunger Force
Nickelodeon	1, 2, 3	Unfabulous	Naturally Sadie	Romeo	Drake & Josh	Chalkzone	Avatar: The Last Airbender	Danny Phantom	My Life As A Teenage Robot	SpongeBob SquarePants	The Fairly Odd Parents	Four Eyes	Romeo	Girls In Love	The Amanda Show	My Dad The Rock Star	Four Eyes	The Wild Thornberrys	Are You Afraid of the Dark?
Lifestyle Network	Living Space	Homes Of Dallas		Radical Sabbatical	Road & Track	Genuine Article	Food Fight	Date Plate	Emeril Live		Iron Chef America	How Do I Look		NY Fashion Week	Look For Less	My Crazy Life 101		Fashion Trance	
Star World		The Collector		Miami Vice		Monk		John Doe		Chronicles: News From The Edge		TNA Xplosion		Ghost Hunters		Enterprise		Kumars At 42	Less Than Perfect
AXN									E Buzz	Gamemax	Hollywood's Greatest Stunts	The Amazing Race Family Edition		Las Vegas		House		The Shield	
JackTV		Worst Case Scenario		Cheat	Filter	Samurai Jack	X-Men	Justice League Unlimited	The Batman	WWE Bottomline		Wwe Raw				South Park	The Man Show	Chappelle's Show	Beat The Geeks
ETC		Saturday Night Live		For Love Or Money		Joan Of Arcadia		The O.C.		Queer Eye For The Straight Guy		Last Comic Standing		Saturday Night Live		Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	
HBO				Vice Versa			The Fog Of War (5:45PM)				Solo			Sky Captain And The World Of Tomorrow			Deadwood 12, Sold Under Sin (10:45PM)		
Star Movies		Saving Jessica Lynch (2:50 PM)			Courage Under Fire				Cold Mountain (6:25 PM)					Out For A Kill			Species 2		
Cinema One	Sigaw				All My Life				My Movie				Do Re Mi				Shutter		
EWTN	Voices On Virtue	Angelus (3:15 PM)	The Beatitudes	Story Keepers	Faith Factory C	Rosary With Mother Angelica	Life Is Worth Living	Catholic Compass		The World Over		Daily Mass Live		Angelus (9:15 PM)	A Christian Pilgrimage To Jordan	Choices We Face	Crisis In Culture	Life on The Rock Encore	

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.



Ang inyong tagapaghatid ng ulat-pangmulat
alas-10 ng gabi na! Tuwing Huwebes
Ating kabalitaan
Cheri Mercado
Dito lang sa ABC
INQ TV

South Forbes launches Golf View Terraces

SOUTH FORBES, THE country's first fully integrated golf resort city, proudly announces the launch of its prime condominium project facing the 18-hole, all-weather South Forbes Golf Club.

Aptly named Golf View Terraces, the building is designed like a terrace to adapt to the site's natural sloping terrain as well as the shape of the land. It is perched on a hill overlooking Hole No. 10 of the South Forbes course designed by Asia's leading golf course designer, the International Management Group (IMG), to the north.

Residents also have views of Laguna de Bay to the east and Mt. Makiling to the south. In addition, the site's high elevation makes residents appreciate cool, Tagaytay-like weather year-round.

Modern Asian architecture

Golf View Terraces has three fan-shaped wings to maximize the view of this world-class golf course. Inspired by modern Asian architecture, the building features large windows, light-colored walls, and steel and aluminum railings and trellises.

Residents and guests drive to Golf View Terraces via a well-appointed porte cochere and enter through a high-ceiling lobby with modern furnishings and finishing materials.

Loft units are available at the ground and second floor—the penthouse floors. Standard one-level units, meanwhile, are at the three lower floors, two of which give direct views of the perfectly manicured 10th hole and 11th green. All units feature balconies so that unit owners will enjoy the cool breeze and panoramic views of the golf course.

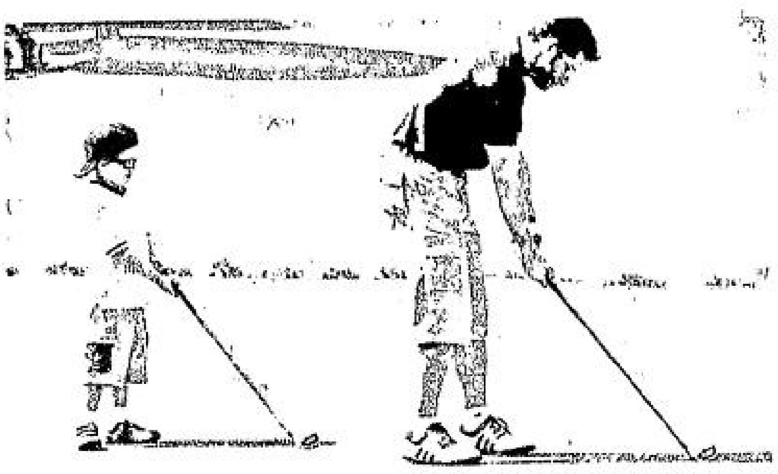
Top amenities, such as a two-level infinity pool directly facing the fairways, await investors at Golf View Terraces. Other amenities include a pavilion, parks and a playground, pocket gardens and a jogging path.

Best golfing lifestyle

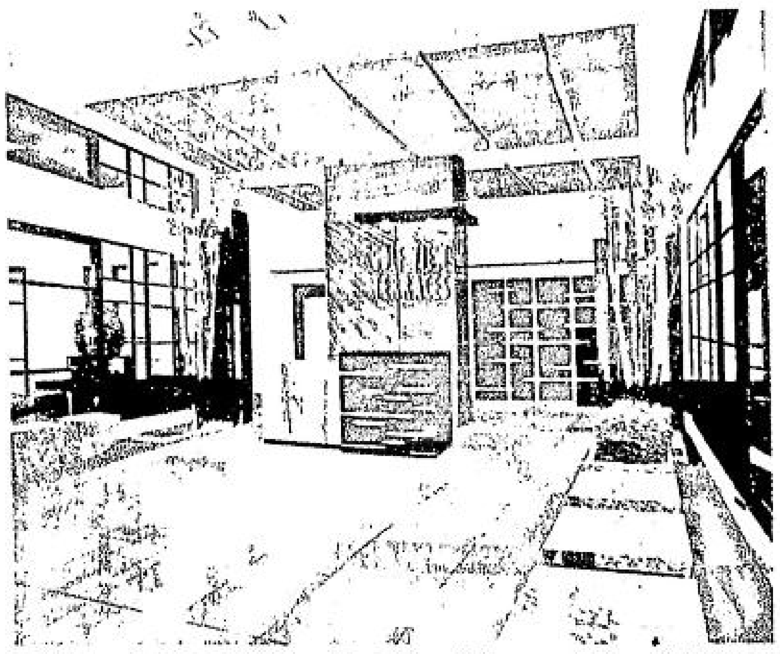
Investors at South Forbes don't just have to appreciate the views of the greens, however. With their free golf membership at no activation fee at all, they can actually enjoy the challenging fairways and commune with nature at the South Forbes Golf Club.

With the distinction of being the first and only Philippine affiliate of the exclusive international golf club of IMG SportsClub, South Forbes also offers residents at Golf View Terraces the opportunity to test their golfing skills at 42 other world-class golf courses abroad. Through IMG SportsClub, they will get preferred access and discounted rates in top golfing destinations such as the Nirwana Bali Golf Club in the tropical paradise of Bali, the Moonah Links in Melbourne and San Francisco's prestigious Presidio Golf Course.

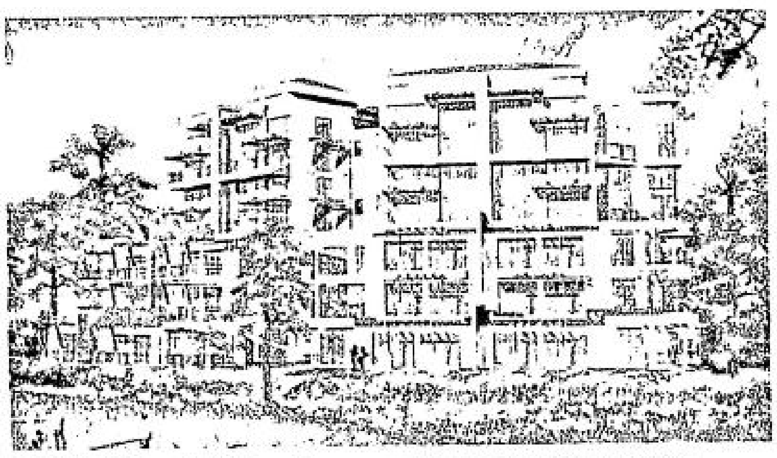
For wise investors and overseas-based Filipinos who are searching for a prime investment here in the country, Golf View Terraces at South Forbes Golf City definitely offers the best golf lifestyle. Call 635-8108 or 636-4643 now for a free tripping to the site or visit www.southforbes.com.



AT GOLF View Terraces, the 18-hole South Forbes Golf Club is both a perfect backdrop from your balcony and the grandest of playgrounds.



THE LOBBY of the Golf View Terraces will feature the best finishing and furnishing materials inspired by modern Zen designs.



INVESTORS at Golf View Terraces will have grand views of the fairways of the 18-hole South Forbes Golf Club.

Embrace your surroundings at The Parkwood

CHARACTERIZED BY PARKS, open spaces and greenery, The Parkwood, the newest phase of "The Next Big Thing" is distinctly designed with the scenic lover in mind. The development's natural traits are being utilized to create an even more habitable environment of the most private and exclusive portion of Ayala Westgrove Heights to date.

Aside from the nature parks, a feature unique to The Parkwood is the garden trails, which gives access to the enclave's most alluring features. This is a connecting stone path trail that can be used to traverse through the phase's massive woodlands, stony creeks, ferny glens and wildflower gardens.

The design of this walkway augments the already existing flora-rich glens, creating a transition zone between one's backyard and the mini forest. The garden trails pathway was created to make it appear it was there for a long time already with the creative use of weathered stepping stones, rock outcrops and boulder compositions. These help create the feel of a dry creek bed that winds through the woods.

Other than being able to enter the trails directly from their lots, future homeowners can also create the illusion that the garden trail walkway and mini forest area are seamless parts of their backyards. Their back lawns can seemingly merge with the captivating forest backdrop, since the different terrain types encourage them to have patios, terraces and decks alongside the phase's thick shade of trees.

The less than a hundred lots allow for more room for different lifestyle needs and easy access to the many amenities of the Westgrove Sports Center. These lots are also feng shui-friendly and highly exclusive because of their orientation.

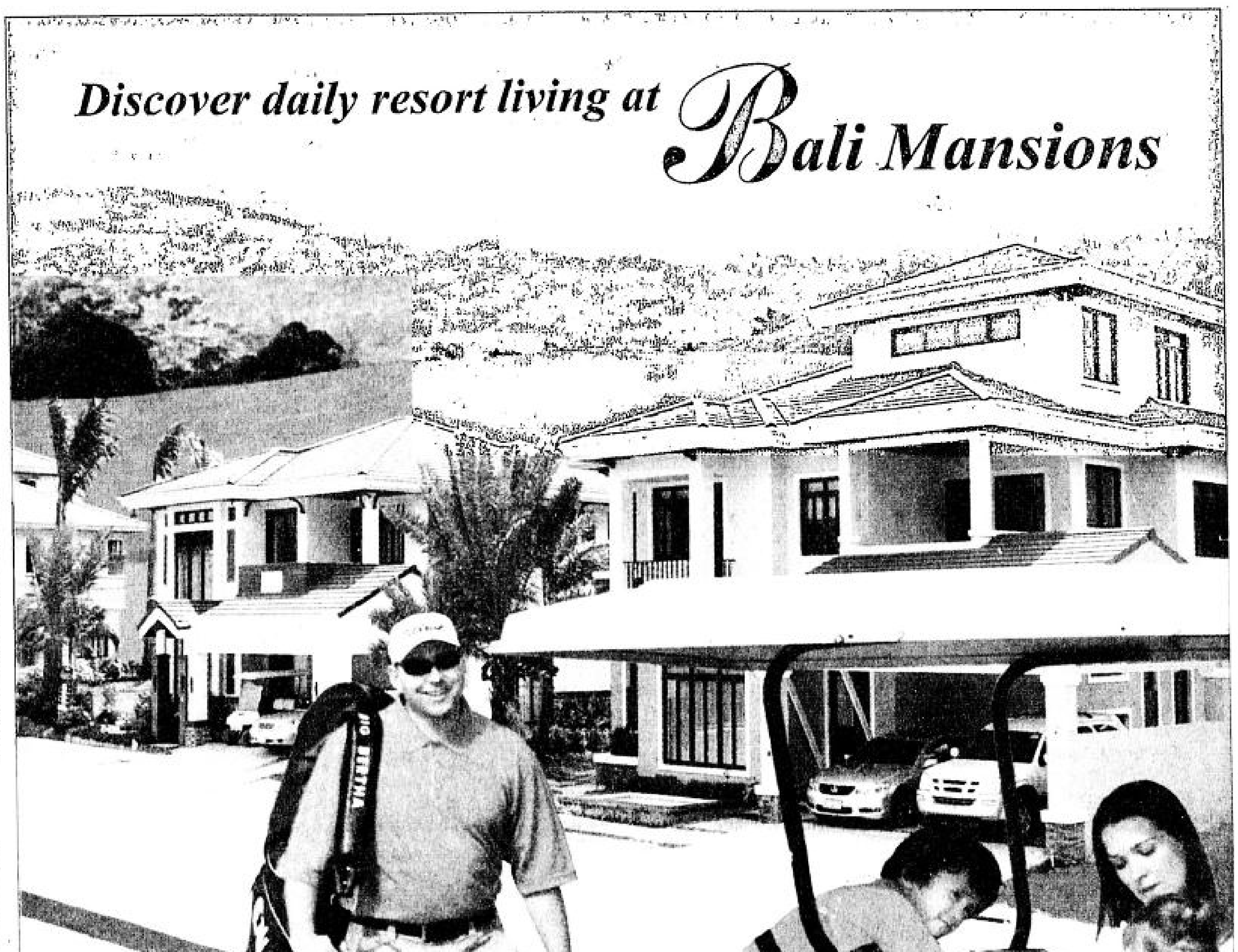
The Parkwood will also be perfect for those seeking a daily relief from their demanding city lives. The phase has only one vehicular access point, which means that only residents of the phase can immediately get into the private neighborhood, affording them more exclusivity and extra comfort.

Future residents of The Parkwood can look forward to a more enriched atmosphere, as well. There will be more parks and open spaces for families to enjoy. The existing forest was reinforced with the addition of more trees, fragrant species and fast growers.

There will also be a visual variety of ground-covers, and shrub and herb clusters with colorful foliage. These will be accentuated from time to time with an array of ferns, bromeliads and wild orchids. The Parkwood's natural and enhanced beauty will be permeating, and will reassure residents that this new portion will be ideal for relaxation and meditative activities for many generations to come.

For further information about the Next Big Thing, please call 728-7000, or log on to www.ayalaland.com.ph, or e-mail ayala-sales@ayalaland.com.ph.

THE LAGOON is one of the scenic spots in the Central Park at Ayala Westgrove Heights.



Discover daily resort living at Bali Mansions

In this resort city, every Asian-inspired home is made uniquely for families who seek both exclusivity and excitement. Every home at Bali Mansions exudes a deep sense of style. It promises a warm and secure environment where neighbors can easily become friends and friends become your family, as you all share a common passion for the finest things in life. Sounds like a dream, but here at Bali Mansions in South Forbes Golf City, this is one dream that is right within your reach.

Own a Mansion for as low as
P 18,000 / month
with FREE membership to the world-class, 18-hole South Forbes Golf Club.

Actual photos taken at the Lovina model Mansion.

SOUTH LUZON EXPRESSWAY
LAGUNA BLVD.

Champion Location: Metro Sta. Rosa

For the pleasure of viewing our model Mansions, please call
635-8108 or 636-4647
www.southforbes.com

SOUTH FORBES
GOLF CITY
THE ALL-IN-ONE CITY

OWNER / DEVELOPER: CATHAY LAND, INC.

Brittany Bay fosters a growing community

BRITTANY Bay: a community where people can live in the best environment possible.

THE DETAILS MAY VARY BUT THE sweet stories of childhood rarely differ. All it takes are two 8-year-olds and their collective imagination can transform the garage into a Western-style saloon, the street into a dusty sit for a duel between a sheriff and an outlaw, and the club house pool into a lake where the horses may drink their fill.

Often enough, they leap through space and time, finding themselves dueling with the help of a light saber and communicating through hi-tech walkie-talkies. The technology may have changed but the essence of the memories remains the same.

It is the sight of children conquering their own little world that reminds us most of why we have chosen where we live. We spend hard-earned money to ensure that they grow up in a secure environment that nurtures their imagination and brings them together with other children with whom they can form a lifelong bond. And this is precisely the kind of community that is now emerging at Brittany Bay.

Urban renewal

It is located strategically at the south of Manila, bound by the Sucat and Bicutan interchanges on the South Luzon Expressway and the edge of Laguna de Bay yet protected from the bustling commuter traffic of the highway by a buffer of trees. Brittany Bay is a 50-hectare community that provides urban renewal for metro dwellers searching for an improved quality of life.

ONGOING construction of more Victorianne houses is an indication of homeowners' desire to move in to their San Francisco-inspired homes by Christmas time.

Inspired by the architecture of San Francisco, this picturesque area established by maverick real estate developer Brittany Corp. consists of three well-defined districts—La Posada, Victorianne Row and Viera. And today, this neighborhood has emerged into a true community with a host of residents now calling it their home.

"Brittany Corp. has always been about people," said Brittany Corp. president Jing Serrano.

Said Serrano: "We believe that a home is not merely a roof over your head or a shelter from the storm. Brittany Bay was created specifically to create a place where people can live in the best environment possible—a place where parents can raise their children, where people who go to work every day can come home and relax, where senior citizens can retire. It is people who make a community. What we have done is to lay down the foundation and support to ensure that our community enjoys the best possible quality of life."

Along the Victorianne Row, in particular, it has become a typical sight to see children safely playing in the open areas as their parents watch them from a distance while sipping a cool drink and catching up on their reading.

Swimming pools

The swimming pool located at the La Posada clubhouse area is fast becoming a favorite haunt to escape from the heat or to flex some muscles for the more health-conscious residents. This 180-sq-m free-form pool adorned with Mediterranean blue tiles is divided into three areas.

At a kid-friendly 5-foot deep, the main pool offers a beach entry that welcomes swimmers in. Next to it is the 2-foot deep wading pool where the kids can begin testing the waters. Connected to both areas is a splendid foot bath lined gracefully with sprinklers and bubblers. The foot bath opens to the grand gazebo where homeowners wet and dry can chill out.

Adding to the scenic poolside retreat are loungers and massive butterscotch yellow umbrellas under which garden sets will soon rest. There is also the bath house equipped with shower rooms and toilets for men and women. The pool wouldn't be complete without a lifeguard who is always ready.

The Wharf

Just a quick jog away is The Wharf where residents can enjoy a cup of the infamous *kapeng barako* at Figaro, or maybe a stronger drink at Grappa's.

Grilled meats and seafood are always available at Dencio's and various bands perform at the heart of The Wharf to entertainment guests who choose to dine al fresco. And making this line of delectable dining choices even more varied are the soon-to-open Brother's Burger and a Japanese restaurant.

For those with stronger artistic inclinations, the Bay Center for Music and Arts (BCMA) is within the premises with trained instructors to teach ballet, piano, voice, guitar and other artistic pursuits.

2 model units

Victorianne has two model units available. Duetto, a four-level structure, has two units back-to-back to ensure the homeowner's privacy. The Quadrille, on the other hand, is a cluster of four units sharing two of the four walls to maximize the space.

A separate entrance and view guarantee's the homeowner's privacy. The Duetto and Quadrille occupies a total of 146 sq m of floor space on an 86-sq-m lot and 126-sq-m floor space on a 70-sq-m lot, respectively.

Amenities offered by the property include underground cabling for power, communication and CATV, availably wiring for high-speed Internet connection, high-level security alarm system, swimming pool, shower rooms, tea garden, lily pond, multifunction hall, children's playground, and game courts.

For inquiries and property previews, please call 850-2868 or 850-3084 or visit www.brittany.com.ph.

Resort-style comforts right in the heart of Makati

WHEN PLANNING A WEEKEND GETAWAY from the hustle and bustle of the city, one need not look far. In fact a venue for resort-style pleasures can soon be available on Makati Avenue in Makati City.

The fast-rising A. Venue Residences, the newest premier high-rise tower to be built by Antel Land Holdings, strives to achieve a unique theme and lifestyle community by incorporating resort-style comforts not normally seen in condominium developments.

Resort features

Among the resort features of the new tower are the three-interconnected indoor swimming pools, which combines the elements of an adult infinity lap pool, a kiddie-dipping pool and a spa pool. Designed with the family in mind, the pools allow for hours of water fun without the hassle of traveling to far-flung locales. There are also a His and Hers Sauna rooms for those who love the privacy of a healthy steam.

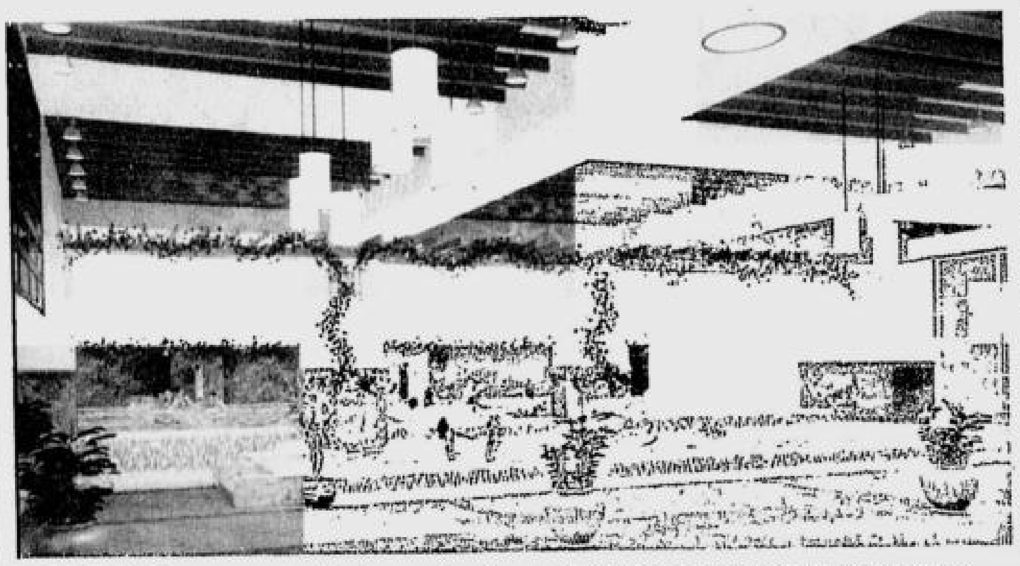
Another resort-style convenience offered at The A. Venue Residences is the well-appointed Fitness Center, where one can keep fit with the latest exercise machines under the guidance of expert trainers.

Even parents can enjoy some alone time together, the tower also houses a Day Care Center and Children's Playground, where kids can enjoy loads of fun and still be totally secure within the walls of the building.

At the end of the day, the whole family can troupe down to the exclusive Home Theater Lounge to enjoy some of the latest silverscreen flicks.

Says Antel Group of Companies marketing director Felino Lao: "We designed The A. Venue to represent a lifestyle that is truly set apart from past condo-tel concepts. We wanted to provide our future residents with a community that revolves around a central theme, in this case that of a resort community. Thus we made sure that the design of the tower blends with the resort-style amenities that we have set in place."

He adds, "We even have a Grand Ballroom that's perfect for special events and functions."



THE THREE interconnected indoor swimming pools form the centerpiece of the resort-style features of The A. Venue Residences, combining the elements of an adult infinity lap pool, a kiddie-dipping pool and a spa pool for hours of swimming fun.

Hotel-like services

Lao also explains that apart from the resort-style amenities, one can also enjoy hotel-like services such as concierge, room service, laundry, housekeeping and transport.

These services epitomizes the five-star difference that The Avenue Residences hopes to achieve and would make their stay in the tower comparable to a stay at any of the country's premier hotels.

"Each of the 356 suites in the high-rise is a full-service residential suite. This means that residents and guests will get to enjoy round-the-clock services similar to that offered by top hotels," Lao stresses.

The 28-story luxury tower offers a mix of residential and hotel-class suites with seven levels of parking and a new mall and events venue rising on an adjacent site for unparalleled convenience.

Construction techniques

The design of The A. Venue Residences itself transcends conventional condominium development standards, by incorporating state-of-the-art construction techniques that allow for beamless and column-free designs in all its suites.

This allows for more usable space for interior design, décor and personal amenities.

Thus The A. Venue Residences will soon offer hotel suites for the perfect getaway experience for travelers without the hassle of leaving the city.

For those who want to enjoy the experience all year round, residential suites will also be available for those who desire to call a resort-style community their new home.

For inquiries on The A. Venue Residences, call 757-2615 to 16 or visit www.antel.com.ph.

Controlled lighting can protect your eyes and pocket

GOOD AND EFFICIENT LIGHTING enhances the esthetic value and ambiance of a home or office, creates a harmonious and convivial environment, and increases productivity and efficiency in the work place. It also helps promote growth and progress through proper illumination.

On the other hand, inefficient and unregulated lighting can lead to serious problems that can cause physical harm, especially to the human eye, and during these difficult times of rising energy costs, even result in increased electricity consumption.

Nowhere is the uncontrolled and inefficient use of lighting more prevalent than in some big manufacturing plants and business offices which resort to the use of infringed, substandard lighting products ostensibly to save on costs but end up spending more in terms of higher electricity costs, wastage of illumination and reduced productivity of workers due to poor illumination.

Energy-saving product

Maxilum Inc, a 25-year-old Filipino company that manufactures aluminum lighting fixtures and louvers, has launched a patented energy-saving lighting louver product called Maxilum Matte Finish Louver that can be installed in lighting fixtures to eliminate glare that usually causes eye strain.

According to Maxilum president Luisito A. Figueroa, the installation of louvers in computer rooms is highly recommended as a means to protect the computer operator against the gamma light rays that bounce off the computer screen and deflect toward the user.

Popular misconception

Figueroa explained that a popular misconception that should be corrected about the use of louvers is the big consumption of electricity it entails.

He said that compared to light diffusers, which are made of acrylic or prismatic plastic, less number of fluorescent lamps are needed if louvers are used to achieve the desired illumination, thus resulting in lower electricity consumption.

Unlike plastic diffusers, which warp and lose efficient light transmission over time, a nonreduction in the transmission of light can be experienced in louvers and, therefore, a decrease in illumination at any given time besides the esthetic appearance it creates.

Nonsusceptibility to dirt

Another advantage of Maxilum Matte Finish Louvers is their nonsusceptibility to dirt and other particles in the environment such as dust, soot and grime because of their use of noncorroding pretreated substrate coated with aluminum, which is static-free.

In addition, the noncorroding substrate gives Maxilum Matte Finish Louvers an indefinite lifespan, notwithstanding its affordable price, because they are not susceptible to rust or decay.

Maxilum Matte Finish Louvers are also fingerprint-proof and maintains the color and sheen of their surface for an indefinite period of time from the date of installation.

Architects assert right to sign, seal architectural plans, building specifications

THE 2005 REVISED IMPLEMENTING Rules and Regulations (R-IRR) of the National Building Code (otherwise known as Presidential Decree 1096 of 1977) clearly states that building plans, designs and specifications should be signed and sealed by the duly licensed and registered professionals such as architects in case of architectural documents and civil engineers (CEs) in case of civil/structural documents. The said provisions under the R-IRR were promulgated by the Department of Public Works and Highways in late 2004, published thrice in April 2005 and finally took effect on April 30, 2005.

The provisions in the 2005 R-IRR of the NBC concerning the signing or sealing of architectural documents have already been fully harmonized with RA 9266 (Architecture Act of 2004) and its IRR and is likewise consistent with the Department of Justice Opinion No. 1 S 2004 which was actually sought by the CEs. The DoJ opinion clearly delineated the realms of practice of the architects and the CEs and stated that architectural documents are for architects to sign and seal. All of these transpired many months before the official DPWH promulgation of what later became the 2005 R-IRR of the NBC.

Despite the foregoing, the CEs still insist that they should also be allowed to sign and seal architectural documents, and have gone to the extent of filing two civil cases against Public Works and Highways Secretary Hermogenes Ebdane. The Quezon City RTC Branch 219 under Judge Bayani Vargas denied the CEs' petition for a writ of preliminary injunction on May 23.

A day later, the CEs were able to secure their desired WPI from the Manila RTC Branch 22 under Judge Mariano de la Cruz. Since the architects are a party in interest (and will be directly affected by the case outcomes) and since the CEs are clearly usurping the practice of the architectural profession, the Architects have since filed motions to intervene in the two civil cases.

Existing laws

Separate laws already exist for the CEs (RA 544 of 1950) and for the architects (RA 545 of 1950). The said laws were amended in 1956, i.e., RA 1582 (for CEs) and RA 1581 (for architects). Lately, RA 9266 (Architecture Act of 2004) took effect. All these laws clearly differentiate the lines of professional practice of the architect and the CE in the Philippine setting. The planning and design of residences in particular do not fall within the scope of professional services of the CE under their law.

RA 9266 specifically states that only architects shall sign and seal architectural documents and that all government officials must enforce said provisions under RA 9266 and its IRR under pain of penalty and imprisonment. Under Philippine statutes, specific laws or stipulations (such as those found in RA 9266) prevail over general laws or provisions or executive issuances (such as the 2005 IRR of the NBC).

Over the past three years, a group of concerned architects called the Architecture Advocacy International Foundation (AAIF), actively participated in the making of RA 9266 and its IRR. The AAIF also actively worked on the harmonization of other laws such as the R-IRR of the NBC which are inconsistent with RA 9266 and its IRR. Over the past two years, the group has also extensively researched and evaluated the position taken by the CEs on the matter of the signing of architectural documents.

Proofs unearthed

The AAIF has unearthed proof that CEs are not mentioned (nor referred to) as a signatory to architectural documents under the 1977 NBC signed by President Ferdinand Marcos. It also stated that the word "buildings" as used in section 2 of RA 544 (CE law) refer to buildings in relation to irrigation structures and sewerage works, not buildings per se.

Sections 15 (4) and 23 of the same law only mentions four types of buildings or structures for public gatherings or assembly, e.g., theaters, cinematographs, stadiums, churches and the like, provided with large structural spans and for which the CEs may prepare building plans. Section 24 of the CE law (RA 1582) also states that in instances wherein CEs and architects shall work together, the CEs shall only render work and services proper for a CE while the architects shall also render work and services proper for an architect, whereby both shall be responsible for their respective acts.

The AAIF made clear however that not all CEs are capable of preparing structural designs for the said public buildings or structures since structural design is a very specialized field engaged in by a very small number of qualified/certified/expert CEs. It is these structural engineer-CEs who are actually considered by many architects as their allies in the profession, not the generalist-CEs who seek to practice architecture using their CE licenses.

The AAIF also emphasized that in international professional practice, the term buildings or building plans or building designs hardly appear under the consultant expertise codes for CEs, where they are more recognized for their roles or capabilities as construction managers, supervisors or administrators for building projects that have been planned and designed by architects.

For the CEs to claim that the preparation, signing and sealing of architectural documents have been their right over the past five decades may constitute an intentional misreading of the law. The CEs may have been misrepresenting themselves all that time as equally capable of performing the architects' work when they are not.

The AAIF insisted that the right to prepare, sign and dry seal architectural plans, designs, specifications, estimates and even the pertinent tender or bid documents (collectively the architectural documents) have not only been vested by Philippine law solely on the architects but that it is also the internationally accepted professional practice.

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Creative Director **Tim Yap**

Futura

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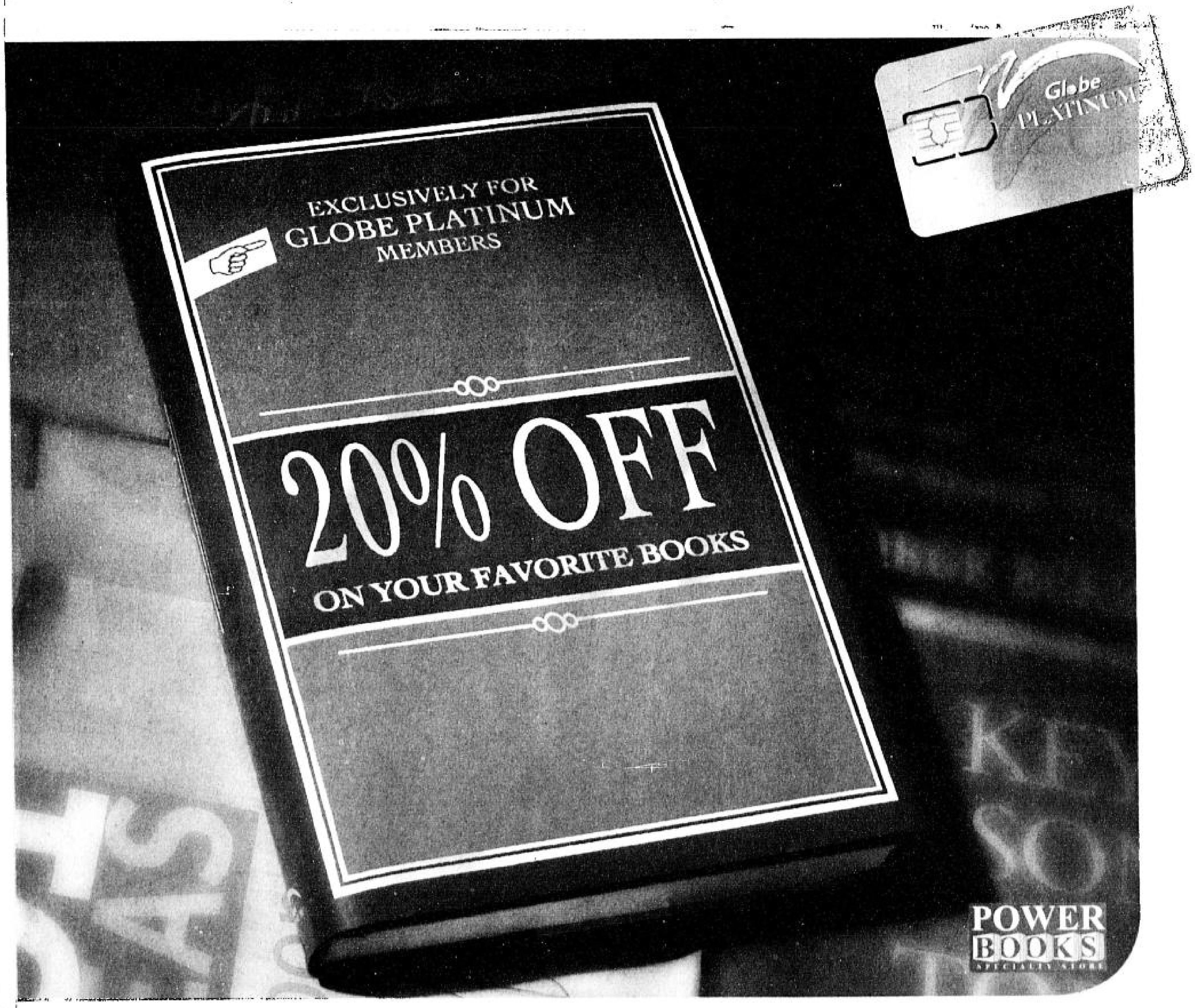
Madonna looks into the future page D1

Shu Uemura holds artists auction on Nov. 9 page D3

Claudine Barretto dons F&H holiday line page C4

Produced by TIM YAP
Photography WILLY SAW
Styling Cover star
ASTRUD CRISOLOGO
[illegible] by PUEY QUINONES
in Embassy Super Club



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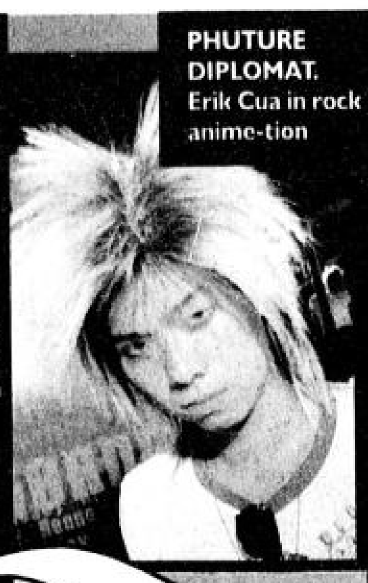
ROYAL TOP GUNS. Jon Herrera, king of chefs and birthday boy Fernando Aracama with KC Montero


PHUTURE DIPLOMAT. Erik Cua in rock anime-tion

MINI MASQUERADE. Michelle Pamintuan and Xeng Zulueta

COO CLOCKS CLAN. Victor Neri, KC and Troy Montero with mom Cynthia Garabato

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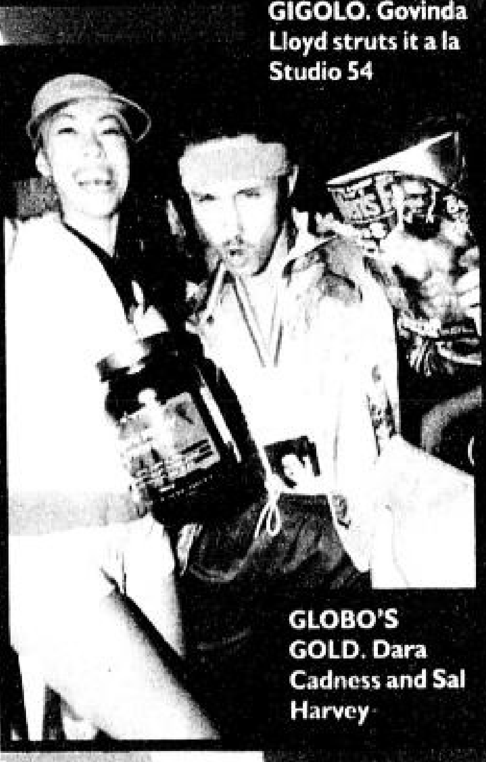
GLOBO'S GOLD. Dara Cadness and Sal Harvey

Photos by Eddie Boy Escudero and Willy Saw

Tim Yap

IT'S BACK TO THE FUTURE, GUYS AND dolls. Lately, I've been on an upward spiral search for answers to questions pertaining to tomorrow.

Yes—I know, Annie, the "future" has been played and replayed, mapped out, painted, filmed, printed, sometimes even built and animated faster than you can say The Jetsons.

The future is not just about Now combined with Then, with new weapons and freakier aliens. The future is actually living with aliens (that's us) with new weapons (that's your latest mobile phone) built to embrace our Now, to connect us to our Then, and to catapult us into Tomorrow.

Great Space Coaster

This obsession for Tomorrow was the inspiration for Embassy Super Club's "Great Space Coaster" Halloween bash where we asked the scene's partyphiles to come in their out of this world funtasy-phantasy-fantastyc outfits to celebrate All Hallow's Eve.

"The Great Space Coaster" was part of Saturday Fun Machine, my weekly childhood boob tube habit. I've gotten into the mood of dressing up as my kiddie fantasies—it's the Michael Jackson in me. This year, I came as Buzz Lightyear! "To infinity and beyond!"

I went to Benny Batoctoy's team (a big shout out to Mountain Rock Productions!) who make the best costumes (from Darna and Gagamboy to Panday and Encantadia) for this special event. I must say, Halloween is my big night. I feel like Santa Claus during Halloween. It's the best time to really get into your fetishes and just fly.

At Embassy's VIP, partyphiliacs chugged Hennessy Cognac and Miller Beer and won spot prizes from DKNY watches. They zoomed in as space age royalty, gods and goddesses, heads of state, rockstars, blue collared workers, masked men, punks and pornstars. One guy even came in pajamas with an army of bikini clad women around him. My favorite was the nameless polar bear who even had a guide so as not to fall over. And oh yeah, Debbie the blow up doll that was tossed around by the guys and gals all night long.

People not in costume were turned away by Aslie Aslanian, Embassy's resident door bitch. So if I were you, I would always bring an extra costume in the car—just in case. They come in handy, like condoms and credit cards.

Fantastic future

After, the post-Halloween break got me into an instant surge to purge. Boxes upon *balikbayan* boxes of stuff from my travels from all over the world, file photos chronicling my evolution (from ape to human being to superhero) plus random thingamajigs (lion costume set, elf ears from Lord of the Rings, glowing devil horns), even my high school diploma!

All of these things made me look back into my life—a life that has always been on maximum speed. After 1001 costume changes, I've surprised myself with the realization that I have done a lot of things (and also bought a lot of things), good and bad. Looking at all the clutter in my striped pad, I've made a commitment to throw the things I don't need and file the important, decade-defining, iconic, time capsule material pieces of my existence.

So after looking back, what do we do? Look forward, young man. A colleague told me that he wants 2005 to end already. He feels that things have been so-so, that we're all just floating along, waiting for things to happen. But I told him that we should look at it as a springboard for new experiences, for changes and growth.

Before the year ends (it's closer than you think), we should declutter to be able to start with a new slate. Halloween is to relive your fantasies, Christmas is restore your faith. New Year is to reinvent your future.

"The future you see is the future you get," said Robert G. Allen.

This is the future. Pay attention.

SNOW QUEEN. Tania Paulsen just bit the apple.

GORILLA PEACE. Here at Embassy, Osama and George are friends.

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KINGPIN. DJ Pauli Mac always gets the girls.

SCHOOL SCHMOOZE. Kym de Guzman and Stephen Ku

COWBOY CRAZY. Fashion week organizer Tina Herrera

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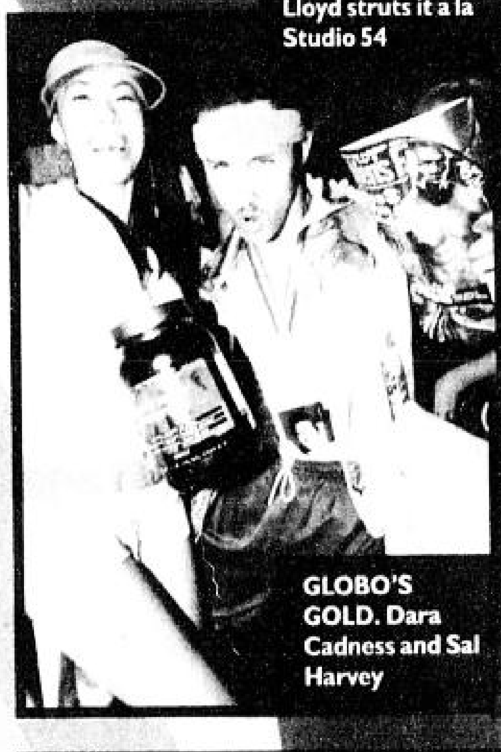

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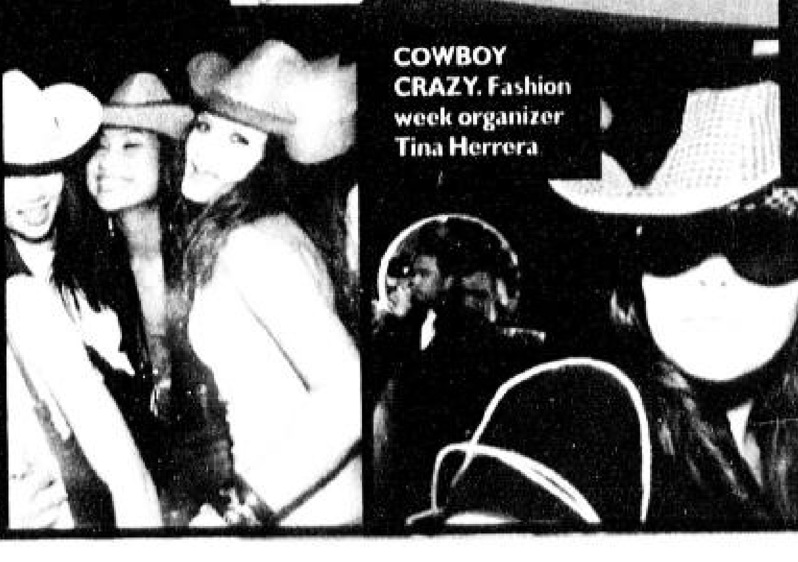

COWBOY CRAZY. Fashion week organizer Tina Herrera

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STUDIO PINK. Jerome Gomez, Bea Constantino and Mags Paguyo

VIOLET STYLELAB. Rosario Herrera fresh from Paris

VISUAL INTELLECTUAL. This dude definitely scored that night.

DELICIOUSLY DAACS. Mimi Tan living in masquerade.

BLOND AMBITION. Bryanboy goes platinum—and I don't mean the card.

MAGIC SHU POWDER. Tina Tinio as Barbarella with Ivan Zalameda

BUZZED GOOD YEAR. Tim Yapfinity, and beyond!

PRINCESS DIARIES. Princess Violago, Vicky Herrera and Super!'s David Milan

CINDERELLA, THE WARRIOR PRINCESS. Geneva Cruz ready for battle

CHEF GROOVY. Chef Cyril Soenen, yeah baby!

THE DARTH side of GP Reyes

EAT MY WHIP. Juliet Tan will spank you.

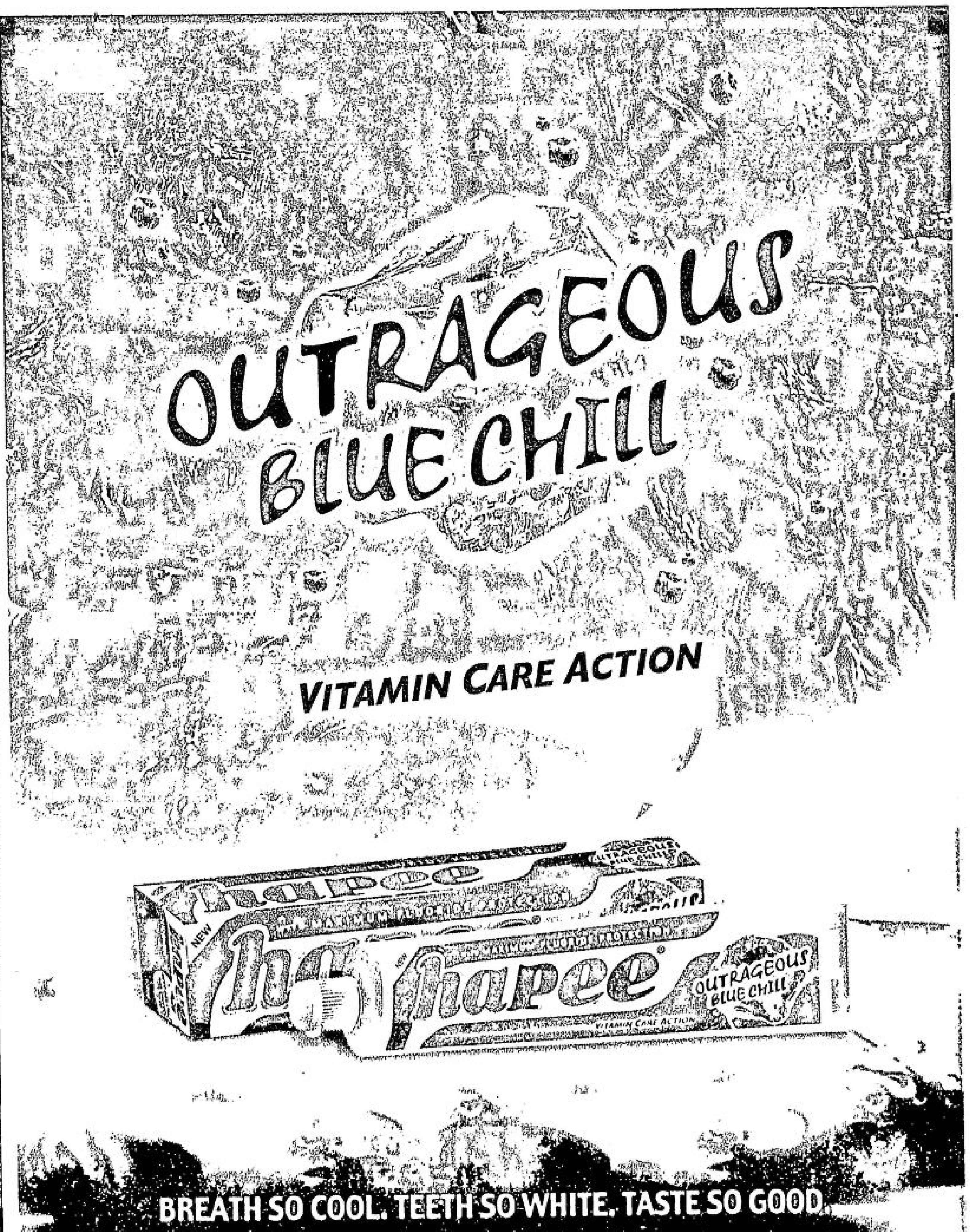
NURSE CUPIDO. Rachel Alejandro's party prescription

DEADLY COSMO. Ianne Evangelista represents the Go!Go! Cosmo girl

COUTURE QUEEN. Mariko Jacinto in Issey Miyake

SUMMER AT THE SUPER CLUB. One of the (many) bikini babes at the party

HOLY KETTLE CORN SQUAD. Alan Escaño, hot flapper chick Jurie, Mark Powers and Derek Chiongbian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OUTRAGEOUS BLUE CHILL
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BREATH SO COOL. TEETH SO WHITE. TASTE SO GOOD.

Holiday . . . Celebrate!

NOW THAT HALloween's over and everyone's costumes have found their way back to the closet/attic/baul/rental shop, it's time to focus on the future.

And the future is Christmas.

If you find yourself wondering about your holiday wardrobe, Folded & Hung has ideas for you.

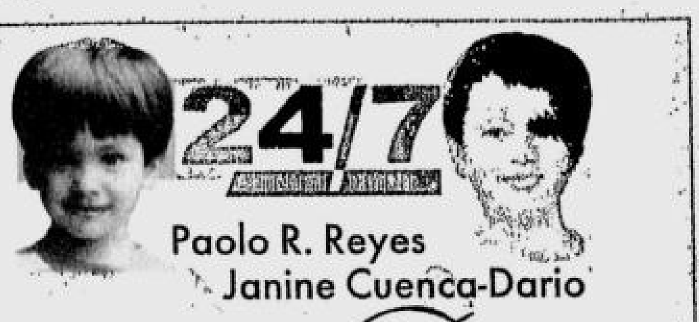
Their new line Folded & Hung Luxe gives F&H's casual urban style a dose of elegance. The pieces come in earthy tones—browns, greens, blacks and grays—and soothing colors—mauve, turquoise, lilac, lavender and white. And the fabrics are rich and luxurious—chiffon, satin, velvet and suede.

Key pieces for women include chiffon tops with satin details, ruffled skirts, figure-flattering wraps, a Christmas green bamboo jacket with satin piping, trench coats in rich patters and suede skirts with lace.

Men can update their wardrobes with tuxedo shirts with neat pleats, slim long-sleeved shirts with collar and cuff details and classic flat front pants made from lightweight satinized stretch twill which can be worn both at work and at parties.

And if accessories are your thing, add a dash of bling to your outfit with Folded and Hung's accessories.

But if you still want to wear your Halloween costume to your Christmas dinner, that's totally up to you.



24/7

Paolo R. Reyes
Janine Cuenca-Dario

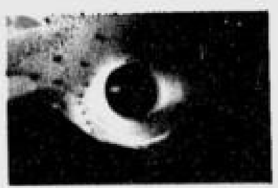
Impossible Dream

THE MUCH-ANTICIPATED MAN OF LA MANCHA KICKS off its month-long run on Friday, Nov. 11 at Rep's Globe Theater at Onstage Greenbelt. This is a tribute to the late Zenaida (Bibot) Amador. Regarded as a Quixotic endeavor, she transformed a fledgling amateur troupe into one of the country's most successful theater companies, Repertory Philippines.

Based on Miguel de Cervantes' classic novel written centuries ago, this musical has inspired people of many generations to pursue that Impossible Dream. Theater stalwarts Michael Williams, Audie Gemora and Menchu Lauchengco-Yulo reprise the roles that Peter O'Toole and Sophia Loren made famous on film in the '70s. Call Rep at 887-0710 or Ticketworld at 891-5610.

The Brass Munkeys @ Wasabi, Nov. 5 & 12

Still reeling from the abrupt departure of Michael Bublé and the void left by his big band sound? Head over to Wasabi [Olympia Building, 7912 Makati Ave., Makati, phone: 840-4223] this evening and catch the neo-swing numbers of one of the country's best live performers, The Brass Munkeys. Be blasted—literally—to the past! Donning authentic '40s zoot suits and sporting pomade-styled 'dos, the popular band's sizzling jazz repertoire will easily transport you to a Technicolor land of dandy couples lounging in cigarette-riddled night haunts, enjoying the sweet sound of Sinatra and swing.

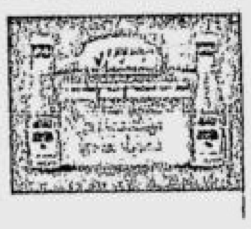


Deep Blue @ Greenbelt 3 Cinemas, Nov. 9 - 17

The ocean: the final frontier. These are the voyages of the "Deep Blue" filmmakers, their five-year mission to explore strange aquatic worlds, to seek out new life and new species, to boldly go where no man—and no camera!—has gone before. Those of you suffering from a bad case of hydrophobia now have a chance to dart with lightning speed through fierce schools of sharks, ride over stormy waves with killer whales, and plunge into pitch-black chasms that are home to—gasp!—wild, alien-like creatures. WWF Philippines screens this jaw-dropping documentary from Nov. 9 to 17 at the Greenbelt 3 Cinemas. For tickets, call 920-7923 or visit the WWF Panda Booth at 2nd Level of Greenbelt 3.

Christian Bautista: Heartfelt @ Music Museum, Nov. 11 & 12

Five years ago, if a dubious fortune teller predicted that a young boy from Imus, Cavite would abdicate his impending Landscape Architecture career, fearlessly launch himself as a romantic balladeer, and eventually win hearts in the "Star in a Million" and "Indonesian Idol" slugfests, would you have believed her? Probably not, but you should have! Next weekend, homegrown singing sensation Christian Bautista celebrates his 24th birthday with two thanksgiving concerts of love songs at the Music Museum. "Heartfelt," he says, "will be all about the fans." Awww. Call 891-9999 or 721-6726.



Red Revolution with Cueshe & On Air @ Metrowalk, Nov. 11

No, ketchup lovers are not conspiring a coup and taking over the country. But they will have quite a bonanza this coming Friday: rock scene stealers Cueshe and On Air perform at the first "Heinz Red Revolution" in Metrowalk, which from the title alone suggests loads of fun, food, and games for all you ketchup-crazy fans. For a chance to win some of the prizes at stake, let red be the color of your armor and "Heinz!" your battle cry. The party spills over to Ayala Center Cebu on Nov. 18 and to Venue, Davao City on Dec. 3. Visit www.heinz.com for details.

Other Super! 24/7 events:

Nov. 5, Saturday

Dave Matthews Night with Bridge at '70s Bistro; Reggae Jazz Fest with Mishka Adams at Riverbank Mall; Bagetsafonik, Bitterpill, Blazin Bulalakaws, & Shoulder State at Saguijo; Supermodel Saturdays at Embassy Club; Soundsgood DJs at Embassy Cuisine; Lush with Paolo Abaya at Absinth; DJ Scratchmark & Bliss at Prince of Jaipur; Progressive House with Papi Santos at Bed

Nov. 6, Sunday

Mishka Adams & Johnny Alegre Affinity at Mandarin Oriental; Goethe-Institut's Youth, Music, Film at The Podium Cinema 2; Sunday Jazz Brunch at Paseo Uno; Sugar-free Desserts & Ice Cream at Peninsula Manila Lobby

Nov. 7, Monday

Soul Seduction at Absinth; Freestyle at Tavern on the Square; I Don't Like Mondays! with DJ Ro at Gwellos Makati;

Nov. 8, Tuesday

Barbie Almalbis, Stonefree, Juana, Dicta License, & Join the Club at Dish; Kickback Tuesdays at Manila DJ Club; Mishka Adams at '70s Bistro; Velvet with DJ Kimosave at Absinth; Guarana at Cafe Havana Greenbelt; CouchLab DJs at Tiananmen Bar; Kolorum, 10th Street, Mighty, Best Before, Forgetting Luna, & Today Like No Other at Saguijo

Nov. 9, Wednesday

Vixen Wednesdays with Cao Ocampo & Superfly's Karl Ty at Embassy Cuisine; Johnyverse & Mars Miranda at Embassy Club; Flirt with DJ James McCranie at Absinth; CouchLab DJs at Tiananmen Bar; Nitylilla, Agaw Agimat, Sundown Muse, & Paramita at Saguijo

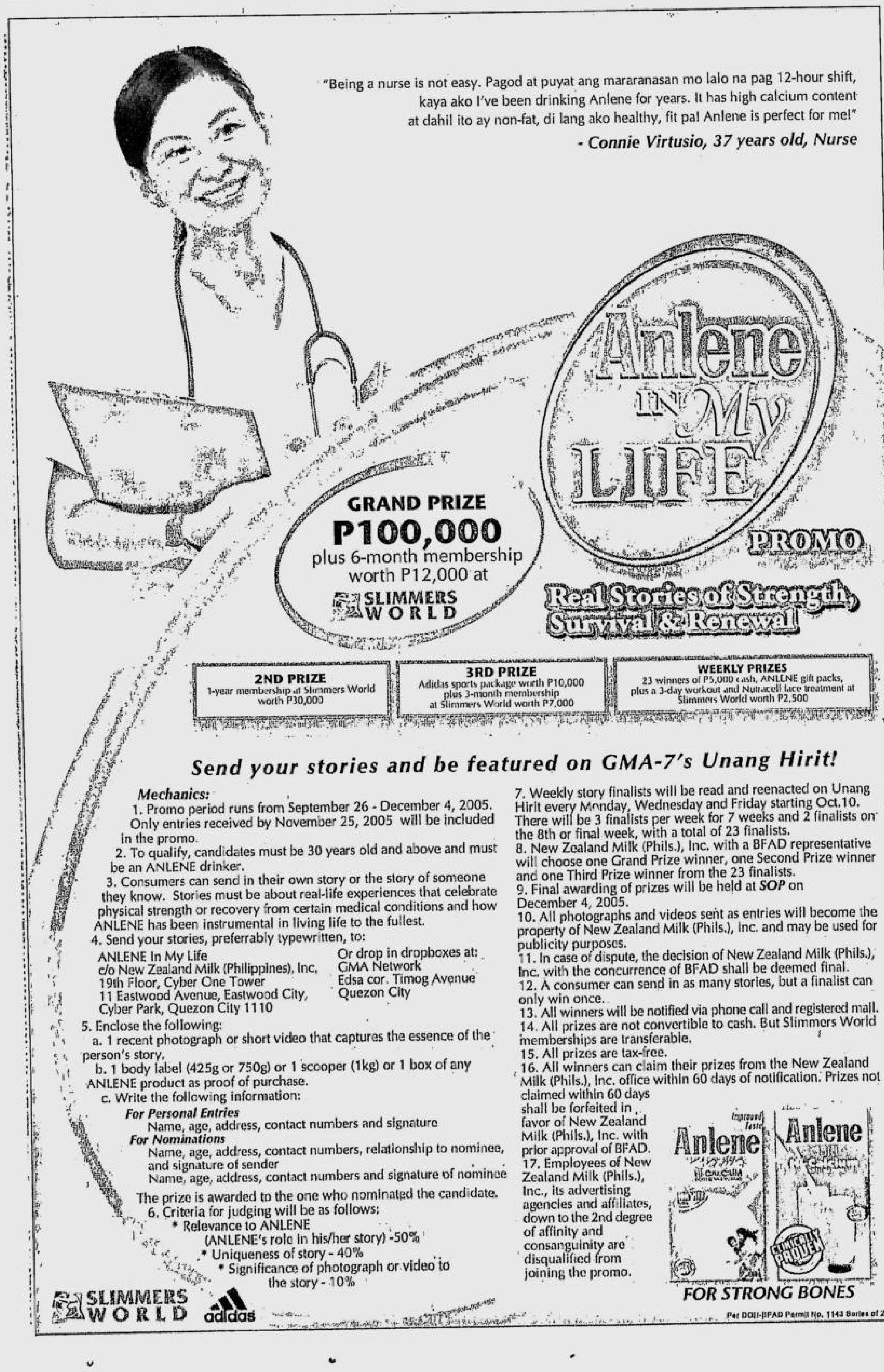
Nov. 10, Thursday

Flux Thursdays at Manila DJ Club; Monkeyspank, Teardrop, Severo, Reklamo, & Naked Tongue at Saguijo; RIDDM with DJ Patch at Absinth; Supahstar DJ Thursdaze with Travis Monsod at Bed

Nov. 11, Friday

Dale Ibay, Blue Jean Junkies, & Spy at Saguijo; NBK's HouSessions with Manolet Dario at Mezze; Superfly DJs at Nuvo; La Baila with Calypso DJs at Maestro; Musik at Embassy Club; CouchLab DJs at Embassy Cuisine; Fever Fridays with DJ Patch at Absinth; Friday Night Flava at Dish; The Jerks at '70s Bistro; Fat Session at Tavern on the Square; DJ Scratchmark & Kimosave at Prince of Jaipur

Schedules may change without prior notice. For more information and a complete listing of events, text 24/7 through your mobile phone and send to 2949 for Globe and 209 for Smart. Log on to www.mag24-7.com or pick up your free copy of 24/7 Nocturnal Navigator at bars and restaurants around the city. Submit your schedules before Wednesday to e-mail address events@mag24-7.com and mag24_7@yahoo.com.



"Being a nurse is not easy. Pagod at puyat ang mararanasan mo lalo na pag 12-hour shift, kaya ako I've been drinking Anlene for years. It has high calcium content at dahil ito ay non-fat, di lang ako healthy, fit pa! Anlene is perfect for me!"
- Connie Virtusio, 37 years old, Nurse

Anlene IN My LIFE PROMO
Real Stories of Strength, Survival & Renewal

GRAND PRIZE
P100,000
plus 6-month membership worth P12,000 at SLIMMERS WORLD

2ND PRIZE
1-year membership at Slimmers World worth P30,000

3RD PRIZE
Adidas sports package worth P10,000 plus 3-month membership at Slimmers World worth P7,000

WEEKLY PRIZES
23 winners of P5,000 cash, ANLENE gift packs, plus a 3-day workout and Nutracell face treatment at Slimmers World worth P2,500

Send your stories and be featured on GMA-7's Unang Hirit!

Mechanics:
1. Promo period runs from September 26 - December 4, 2005. Only entries received by November 25, 2005 will be included in the promo.
2. To qualify, candidates must be 30 years old and above and must be an ANLENE drinker.
3. Consumers can send in their own story or the story of someone they know. Stories must be about real-life experiences that celebrate physical strength or recovery from certain medical conditions and how ANLENE has been instrumental in living life to the fullest.
4. Send your stories, preferrably typewritten, to:
ANLENE In My Life
c/o New Zealand Milk (Philippines), Inc.
19th Floor, Cyber One Tower
11 Eastwood Avenue, Eastwood City,
Cyber Park, Quezon City 1110
Or drop in dropboxes at:
GMA Network
Edsa cor. Timog Avenue
Quezon City
5. Enclose the following:
a. 1 recent photograph or short video that captures the essence of the person's story,
b. 1 body label (425g or 750g) or 1 scooper (1kg) or 1 box of any ANLENE product as proof of purchase.
c. Write the following information:
For Personal Entries
Name, age, address, contact numbers and signature
For Nominations
Name, age, address, contact numbers, relationship to nominee, and signature of sender
Name, age, address, contact numbers and signature of nominee
The prize is awarded to the one who nominated the candidate.
6. Criteria for judging will be as follows:
* Relevance to ANLENE (ANLENE's role in his/her story) -50%
* Uniqueness of story - 40%
* Significance of photograph or video to the story - 10%
7. Weekly story finalists will be read and reenacted on Unang Hirit every Monday, Wednesday and Friday starting Oct.10. There will be 3 finalists per week for 7 weeks and 2 finalists on the 8th or final week, with a total of 23 finalists.
8. New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc. with a BFAD representative will choose one Grand Prize winner, one Second Prize winner and one Third Prize winner from the 23 finalists.
9. Final awarding of prizes will be held at SOP on December 4, 2005.
10. All photographs and videos sent as entries will become the property of New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc. and may be used for publicity purposes.
11. In case of dispute, the decision of New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc. with the concurrence of BFAD shall be deemed final.
12. A consumer can send in as many stories, but a finalist can only win once.
13. All winners will be notified via phone call and registered mail.
14. All prizes are not convertible to cash. But Slimmers World memberships are transferable.
15. All prizes are tax-free.
16. All winners can claim their prizes from the New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc. office within 60 days of notification. Prizes not claimed within 60 days shall be forfeited in favor of New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc. with prior approval of BFAD.
17. Employees of New Zealand Milk (Phils.), Inc., its advertising agencies and affiliates, down to the 2nd degree of affinity and consanguinity are disqualified from joining the promo.

SLIMMERS WORLD adidas
FOR STRONG BONES
Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 1143 Series of 2005

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2005

PHILIPPINE DA Y IN IRE

Super 2

D1

E-mail: super@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: inquirer sup name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

style . urban living . pop culture . entertainment . recreation

MADONNA ONLINE
apresenta
MADONNA
on a dance floor
14/Nov
FESTA DE LANÇAMENTO DO NOVO SITE
MADONNA ONLINE
E DO ÁLBUM
Confessions on a dance floor
NA The Week* International

HER Madgesty.

All hail future Disco biscuits!

OUT THE WINDOW

Tals Diaz

WHILE SOME OF us, ensconced in our little pre- and post-party affairs, are still pressing rewind on our iPods and cranking up the volume to Bonnie Bailey's "Ever After" (which should be voted as The Most Overplayed dance anthem of 2005—at least in these shores), there are others who are shimmying to a future sound.

In fact, these partyphiliacs from all over the world are probably reworking their polyester pants, metallic gold halter tops and giant afro wigs to usher in what is already being hailed as a new dance era, dubbed as "Future Disco." Yezzz ... name the city from Sydney to São Paulo, Lisbon to London, Manhattan to right here in Manila, this worldwide, wound up posse is all set for simultaneous listening parties to be held on an upcoming red-letter date, Nov. 14. And just who

ALL/D3

Now Open! DAILY STORE HOURS: 10:00 A.M.-9:00 P.M.

Tiangge

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ORTIGAS CENTER
BEHIND SM MEGAMALL

brings you CELLPHONES from the SKY

- Everyone can join! No purchase required!
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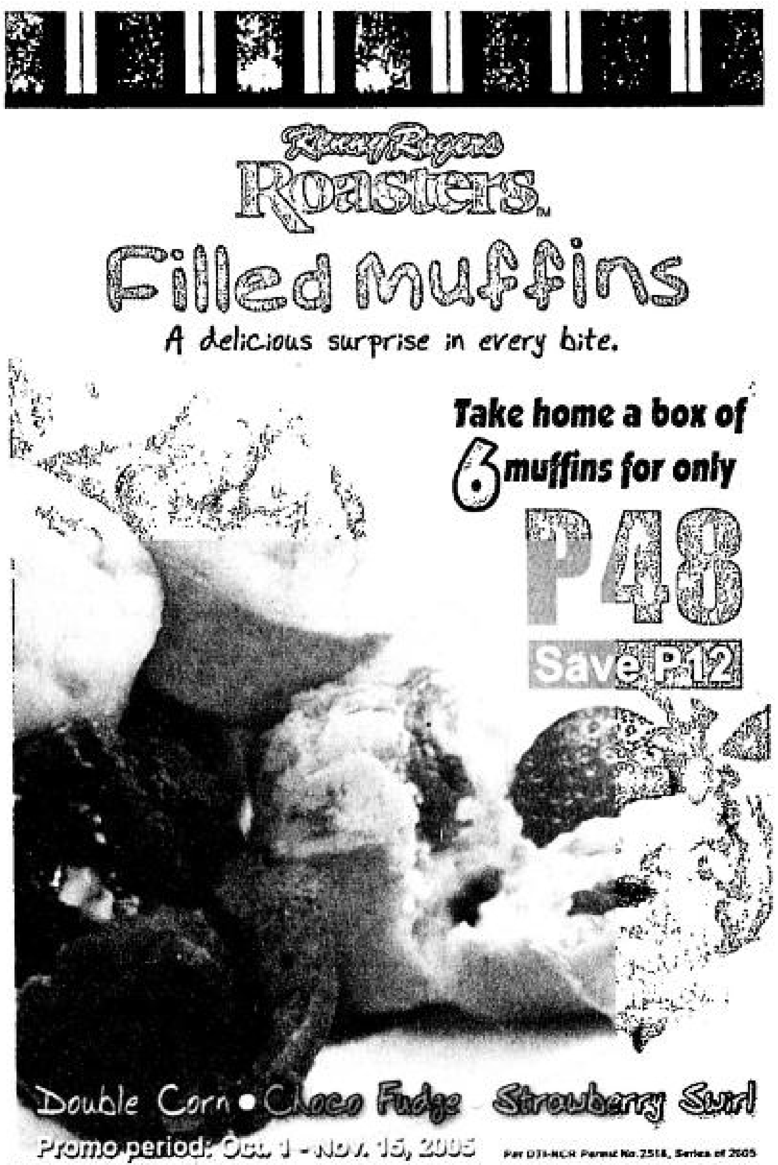
Kenny Rogers Roasters™

Filled Muffins

A delicious surprise in every bite.

Take home a box of 6 muffins for only P48

Save P12

Double Corn • Choco Fudge • Strawberry Swirl

Promo period: Oct. 1 - Nov. 15, 2005

Per DTI-NCR Permit No.2518, Series of 2005

BPI EPS' POWER PERKS!

Express Payment System

Use the BPI Express Payment System (EPS) to get freebies or discounts in these awesome stores:

Apres Salon & Nail Spa 1 free service for every hair service availed • David's Salon and Red Salon 15% discount on hair services • Powerbooks Free Powercard for a minimum purchase of ₱1,000 • Red Ribbon Bakeshop, Inc. ₱10 discount/rebate for every ₱200 purchase • True Value Hardware Corp. 5% discount on all Rubbermaid items • Goodwill Bookstore 10% discount on Harry Potter 6 plus 1 Goodwill Bookstore Privilege Card • JF Lazartigue 10% discount for a minimum purchase of ₱5,000 • The Suriya Spa 10% discount for a minimum of ₱1,500 service availed • Folded & Hung 6% discount for a minimum of ₱1,000 purchase • Island Cove Resorts 10% discount on food & beverage, sports & recreation facilities • K & Company* 3% discount on regular items • Ayala Museum* 50% discount on Museum membership & 5% discount on all Museum programs & selected items at the Museum Shop • Lacoste Footwear 5% discount on footwear • Jelly Bean Fashion 5% discount for a minimum purchase of ₱1,000 • PrettyFIT & Beetlebug Boutique 10% discount on regular priced shoes • FINO Leatherware 5% discount on regular items.

*Gold Cardholders Only

Get these perks now - just hand your Express Teller card, enter PIN and payment's done!

Plus, every ₱500 purchase gives you the chance to win big cash prizes and gift certificates in BPI EPS ₱500,000 RUSH! Promo runs from Aug. 11, 2005 to May 15, 2006. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1918, Series of 2005.

See flyers for details.
Promo runs from October 7 to December 31, 2005.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 5969, Series of 2005.

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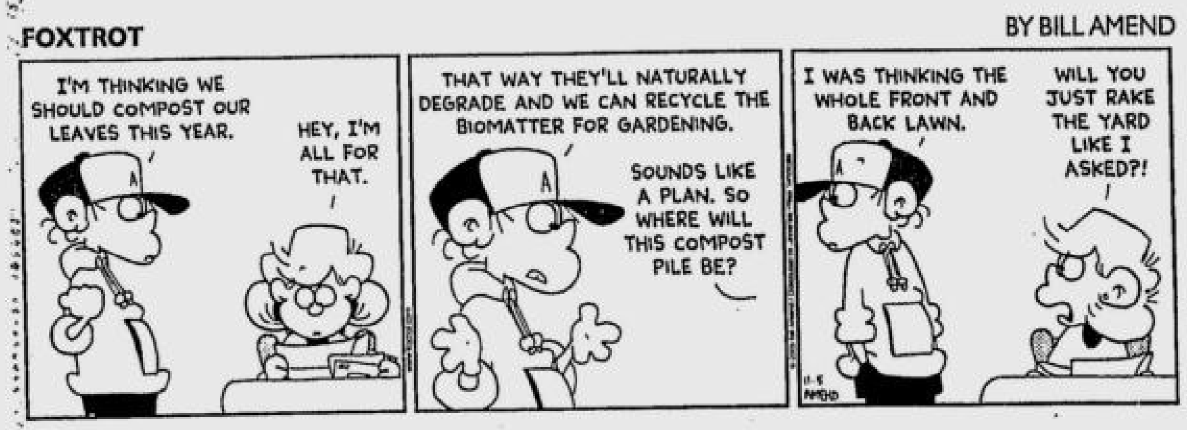
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
ComicRelief
e-mail feedback at arts@inquirer.com.ph
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2005

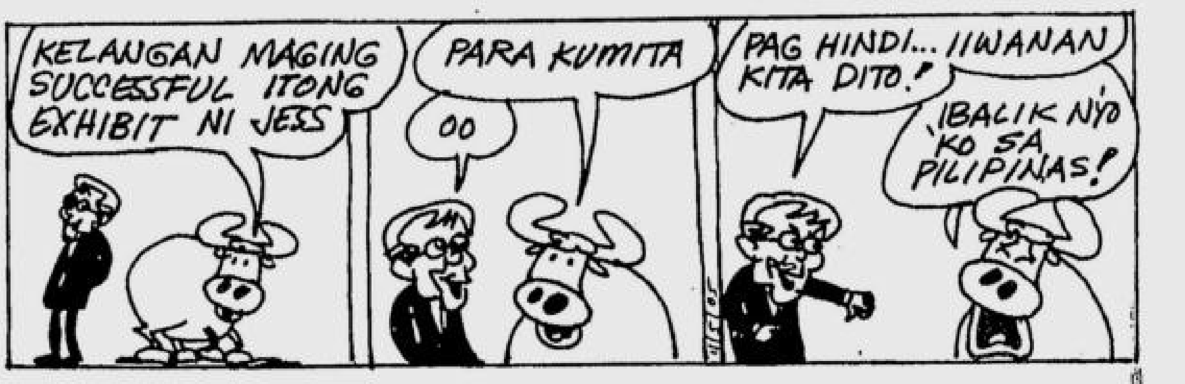
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


I'M THINKING WE SHOULD COMPOST OUR LEAVES THIS YEAR.
HEY, I'M ALL FOR THAT.
THAT WAY THEY'LL NATURALLY DEGRADE AND WE CAN RECYCLE THE BIOMATTER FOR GARDENING.
SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN. SO WHERE WILL THIS COMPOST PILE BE?
I WAS THINKING THE WHOLE FRONT AND BACK LAWN.
WILL YOU JUST RAKE THE YARD LIKE I ASKED?!
11-5 AMEND

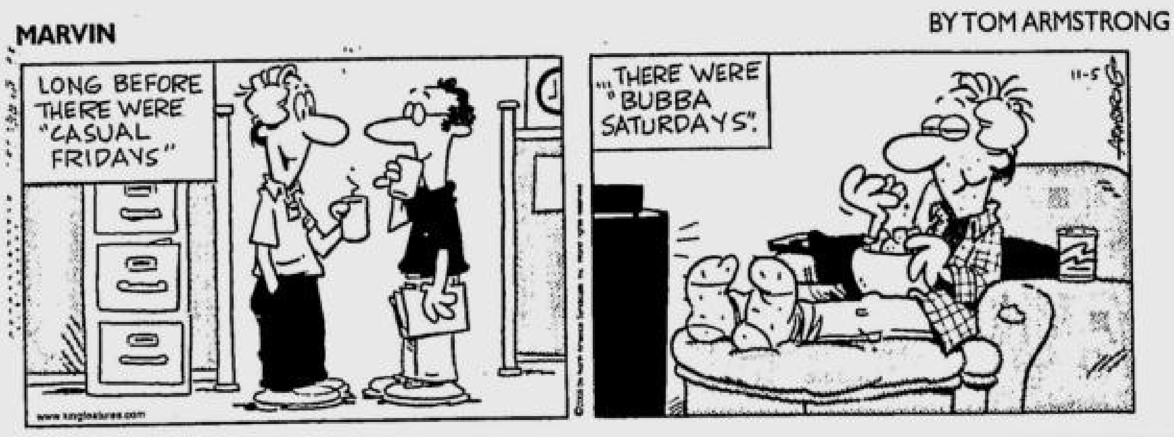
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


KELANGAN MAGING SUCCESSFUL ITONG EXHIBIT NI JESS
PARA KUMITA
OO
PAG HINDI... IIWANAN KITA DITO!
IBALIK N'YO KO SA PILIPINAS!

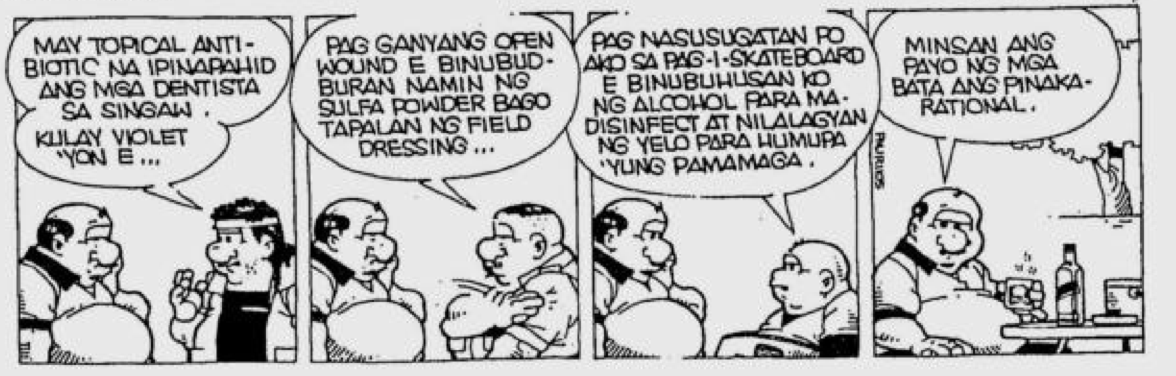
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


LONG BEFORE THERE WERE "CASUAL FRIDAYS"
..."THERE WERE "BUBBA SATURDAYS".
11-5
www.kingfeatures.com

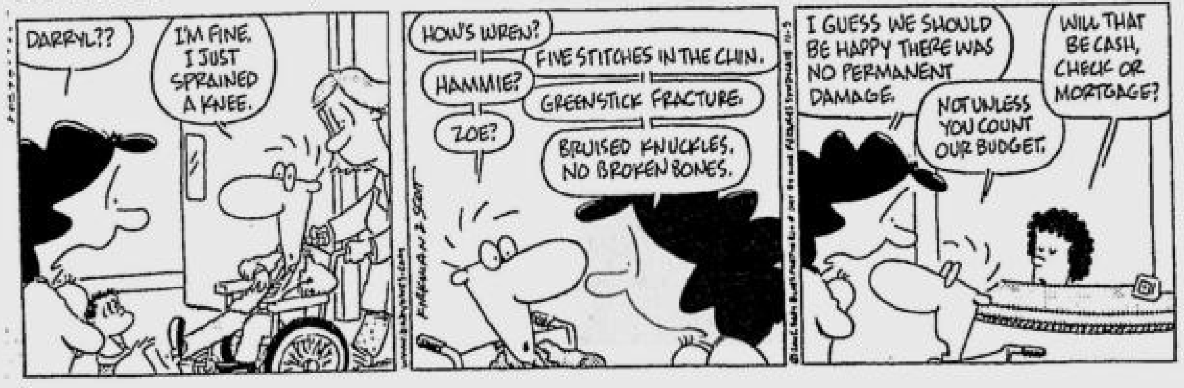
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


MAY TOPICAL ANTI-BIOTIC NA IPINAPAHID ANG MGA DENTISTA SA SINGAW.
KULAY VIOLET 'YON E...
PAG GANYANG OPEN WOUND E BINUBUD-BURAN NAMIN NG SULFA POWDER BAGO TAPALAN NG FIELD DRESSING...
PAG NASUSUGATAN PO AKO SA PAG-I-SKATEBOARD E BINUBUHUSAN KO NG ALCOHOL PARA MA-DISINFECT AT NILALAGYAN NG YELO PARA HUMUPA 'YUNG PAMAMAGA.
MINSAN ANG PAYO NG MGA BATA ANG PINAKA-RATIONAL.

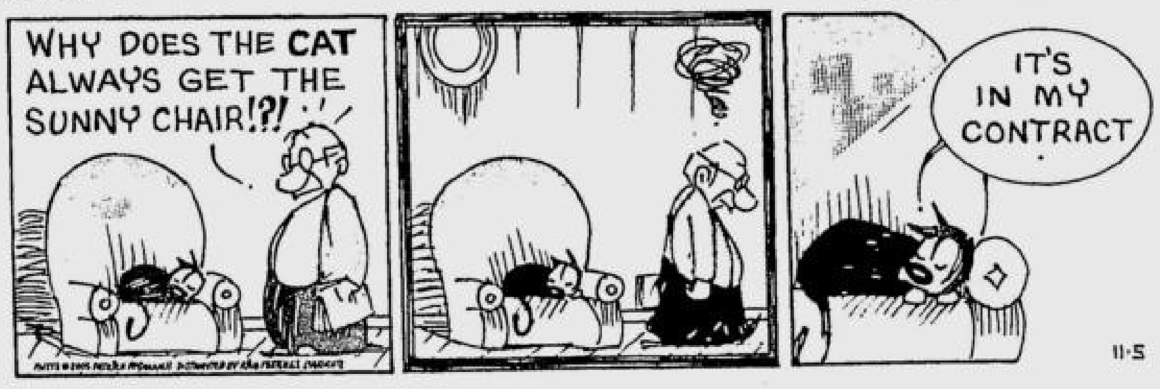
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


DARRYL??
I'M FINE. I JUST SPRAINED A KNEE.
HOW'S WREN?
FIVE STITCHES IN THE CHIN.
HAMMIE?
GREENSTICK FRACTURE.
ZOE?
BRUISED KNUCKLES. NO BROKEN BONES.
I GUESS WE SHOULD BE HAPPY THERE WAS NO PERMANENT DAMAGE.
WILL THAT BE CASH, CHECK OR MORTGAGE?
NOT UNLESS YOU COUNT OUR BUDGET.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

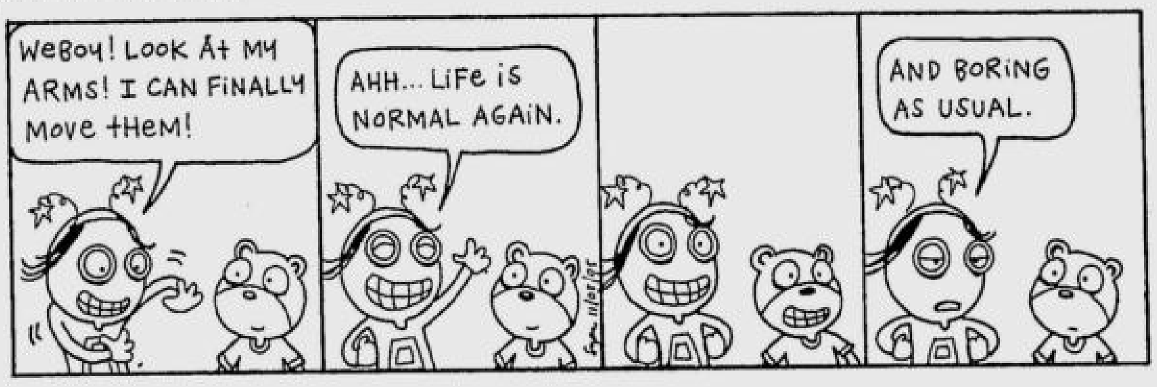
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


WHY DOES THE CAT ALWAYS GET THE SUNNY CHAIR!?!
IT'S IN MY CONTRACT
11-5

ATOMO AND WEBOY

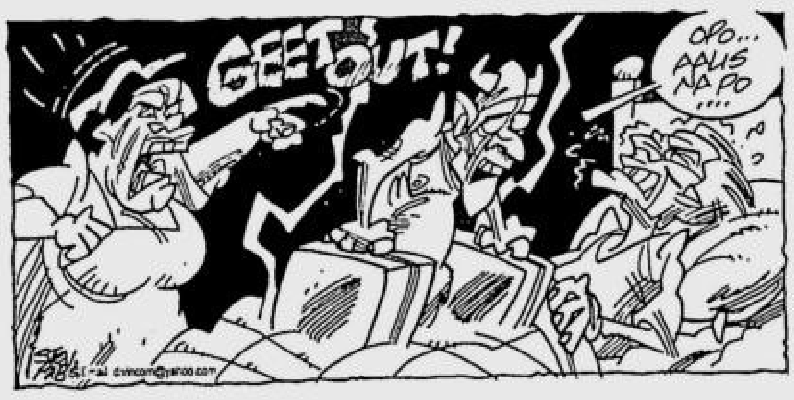
BY LYRA GARCELLANO


WeBoy! Look At My ARMS! I CAN FiNALLY Move tHEM!
AHH... LiFe is NORMAL AGAiN.
AND BORiNG AS USUAL.

DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS

KAHIT HINDI SYA RELIHIYOSANG BABAE, GINAWANG CAREER NG LANDLADY NA SI ALING MEMANG ANG PAGPAPALAYAS NG MGA DEMONYO


GEET OUT!
OPO... AALIS NA PO....

GANYAN KASI ANG GINAGAWA NG MGA LANDLADY, NAGPAPALAYAS!

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You're adventurous! You're intense and intelligent, and you have a strong desire for freedom. Outwardly, you appear calm, but underneath, your personality sizzles with desire. You're definitely strong-willed and determined. A major change, perhaps as significant as whatever took place in 2006-07, will occur in the next year. It's time to go with flow.

Birthdate of: Javy Lopez, baseball pitcher; Art Garfunkel, singer; Bryan Adams, singer/songwriter.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Avoid political or religious arguments today. It's very easy to suddenly say anything that comes into your head, because others just seem to provoke you so that you react without thinking. (Oops!)

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Interruptions to banking systems, computer systems and anything connected with shared property are likely today. Keep track of everything. It's easy to lose something today (especially something that doesn't belong to you!).

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Arguments with partners are likely today. They don't have to happen, but people tend to speak without thinking right now. Everything is off-the-cuff. This could create trouble for someone (possibly you).

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Avoid work-related accidents. Expect power outages, computer crashes and accidents with machinery. These things don't have to happen. Just be careful, because they might. Bosses and customers are definitely unpredictable.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Parents must be extra-vigilant with children today. Daily events are unpredictable, especially concerning machinery, electricity and fire. Stay alert at all times.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Family arguments might erupt suddenly. Home appliances can break down. Your plans definitely will change today. Unexpected company might drop in. (Just cope as best you can.)

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): This is definitely an accident-prone day. Be careful when walking or driving. Be careful of verbal accidents as well! Surprise news might trigger an inappropriate response from you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Guard your possessions and your cash today. Stay on top of your bank account. Unexpected surprises related to money and possessions are likely. Guard against loss and theft.

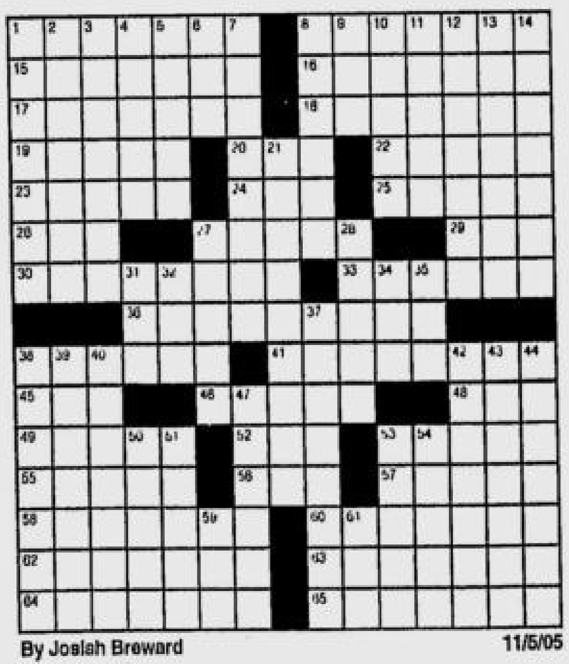
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): It's as if there's a lot of electricity in the air today. You feel restless, excited and nervous. You sense that anything can happen—and you're right! Expect the unexpected.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Interruptions to your dealings with large institutions and the government are likely today. Computer crashes and power outages could be the source. Be prepared for something out of left field.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Friends will surprise you today. Perhaps you will meet someone unusual. Something bizarre occurs with groups, clubs and organizations.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Shocking news from the boss, VIPs or authority figures in your life catches you off-guard. It's not a boring day! Your daily routine will be interrupted in some way.

DAILY CROSSWORD



By Josiah Breward
Scranton, PA
11/5/05

ACROSS
1 Capital on the Tigris
8 Train unit
15 Lift
16 Sculptor Chillida
17 Like a liberated woman?
18 Cheerleading accessories
19 "L'Arlesienne Suites" composer
20 Miner's product
22 "The Man Who Fell to Earth" star
23 Fertile loam
24 "The Wedding Banquet" director Ang
25 Give a near miss to
26 Mess up
27 Out of fashion
29 Columnist Hentoff
30 Uncouple
33 1997 20-game winner Denny
36 Major celeb
38 Tranquilize
41 Spine piece
45 Jurist Fortas
46 Showing no emotion
48 Part of a journey
49 Makes do
52 Helping hand
53 Shadow cast
55 Potato-filled turnover
56 PGA member
57 Ivan of tennis
58 Not genuine
60 "__ and Johnny"
62 Speaker
63 Relative obesity
64 Renters
65 Sword cases

DOWN
1 Gurgled
2 Deductive
3 Cud-chewers, often
4 Alan and Nathan
5 Weight-loss plans
6 Silly billy
7 Forlorn
8 Conical dwellings
9 Hubbub
10 Makes insensitive
11 Silk-cotton tree
12 Tooting one's horn
13 Naval leader
14 Ribbon ornament
21 Extra supply
27 Hollow tubes
28 Portal
31 NATO member
32 Fanatic fan
34 Dine
35 Is plural?
37 Departure parties
38 Santa's quantity
39 Vulcanized rubber
40 Represents
42 Cover with a thick layer
43 Tinged with crimson
44 Never outdated
47 Sharpens to a point
50 __ Park, CO
51 Old English county
53 List of nominees
54 Salon tint
59 Two-finger gesture
61 Sound from a fan

Friday's Puzzle Solved

A	S	H	■	J	E	S	U	S	■	S	N	A	K	E
F	L	O	■	I	R	I	S	H	■	T	E	L	E	X
L	O	T	■	M	A	D	M	A	G	A	Z	I	N	E
A	M	P	L	E	■	■	C	R	I	S	P	■	■	■
C	O	R	O	N	A	S	■	I	N	S	E	C	T	S
■	■	O	N	E	S	E	L	F	■	E	R	R	O	L
M	A	P	■	Z	I	T	O	■	E	N	C	O	R	E
A	W	E	D	■	D	I	T	K	A	■	E	S	M	E
C	A	R	R	I	E	■	T	A	R	P	■	S	E	T
E	S	T	E	S	■	P	E	L	L	E	T	S	■	■
S	H	Y	S	T	E	R	■	B	E	R	E	T	T	A
■	■	■	S	H	R	U	G	■	■	C	A	I	R	N
S	T	E	A	M	E	D	R	I	C	E	■	T	A	G
T	A	E	G	U	■	E	O	S	I	N	■	C	D	E
P	I	L	E	S	■	S	W	E	A	T	■	H	E	R

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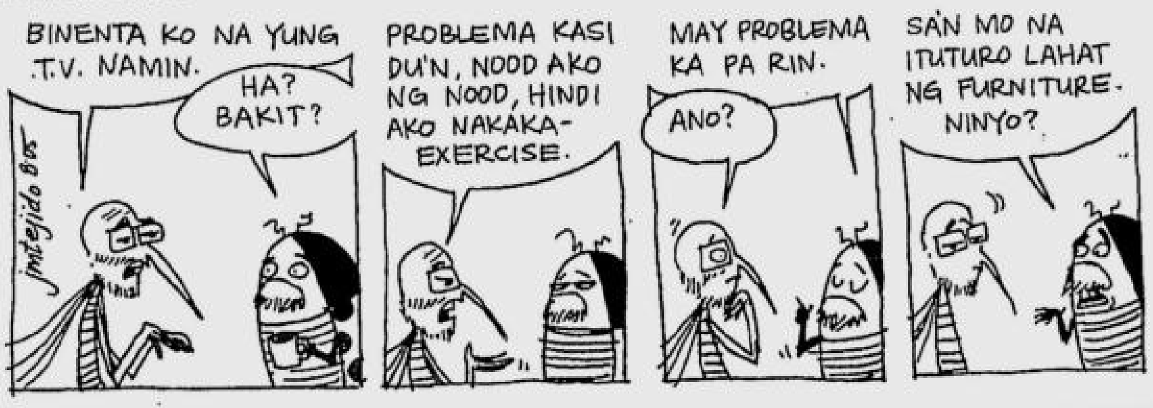
11/5/05

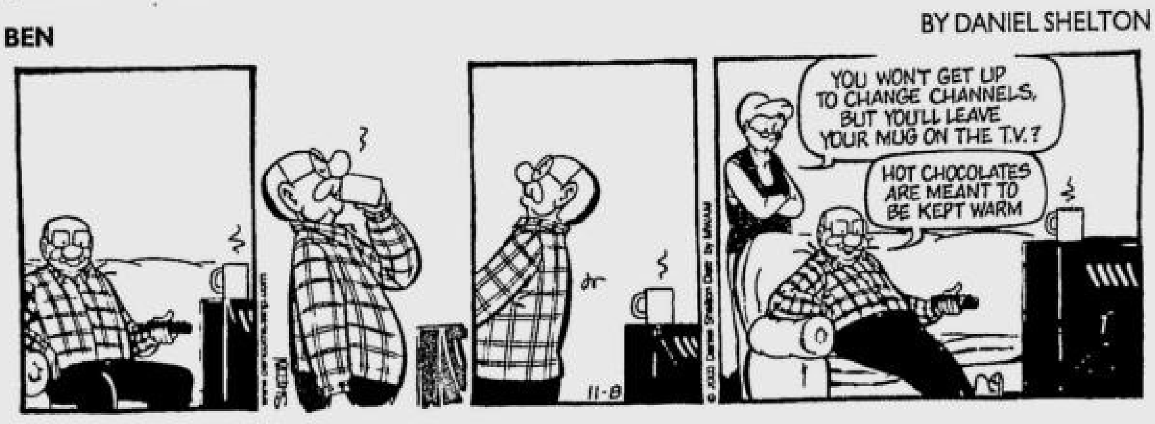
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


BINENTA KO NA YUNG T.V. NAMIN.
HA? BAKIT?
PROBLEMA KASI DU'N, NOOD AKO NG NOOD, HINDI AKO NAKAKA-EXERCISE.
MAY PROBLEMA KA PA RIN.
ANO?
SA'N MO NA ITUTURO LAHAT NG FURNITURE NINYO?
jmtejido 8'05

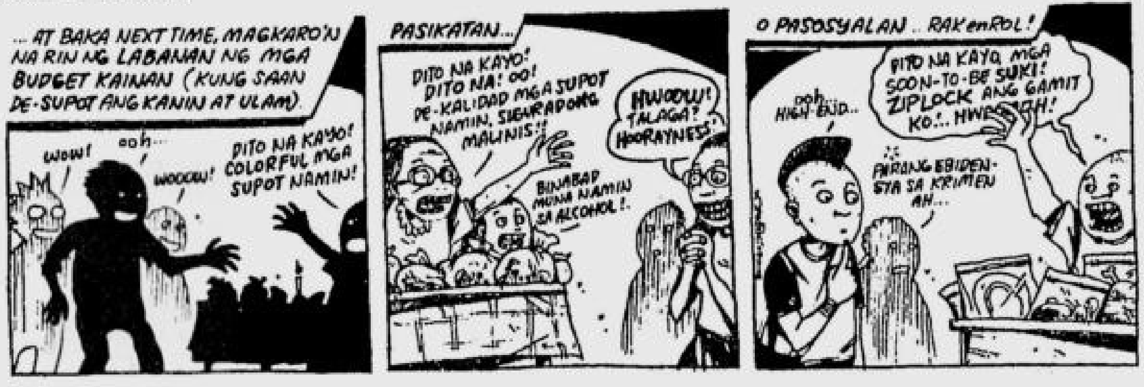
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


YOU WON'T GET UP TO CHANGE CHANNELS, BUT YOU'LL LEAVE YOUR MUG ON THE T.V.?
HOT CHOCOLATES ARE MEANT TO BE KEPT WARM
11-8

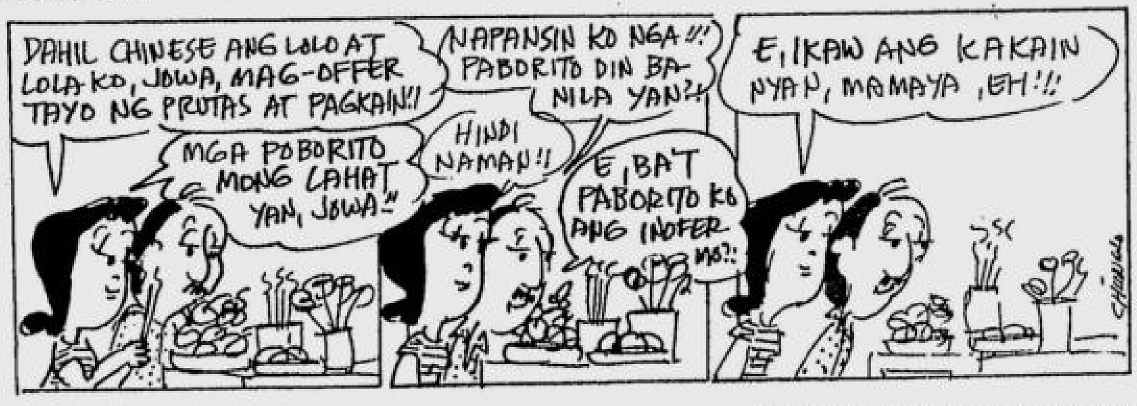
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


...AT BAKA NEXT TIME, MAGKARO'N NA RIN NG LABANAN NG MGA BUDGET KAINAN (KUNG SAAN DE-SUPOT ANG KANIN AT ULAM).
WOW!
ooh...
WOOOW!
DITO NA KAYO! COLORFUL MGA SUPOT NAMIN!
PASIKATAN...
DITO NA KAYO! DITO NA! OO! DE-KALIDAD MGA SUPOT NAMIN, SIGURADONG MALINIS!!
HWOOW! TALAGA? HOORAYNESS!
BINABAD MUNA NAMIN SA ALCOHOL!
O PASOSYALAN... RAKenROL!
ooh... HIGH-END...
DITO NA KAYO, MGA SOON-TO-BE SUKI! ZIPLOCK ANG GAMIT KO!.. HWEEEH!
PARANG EBIDENSYA SA KRIMEN AH...

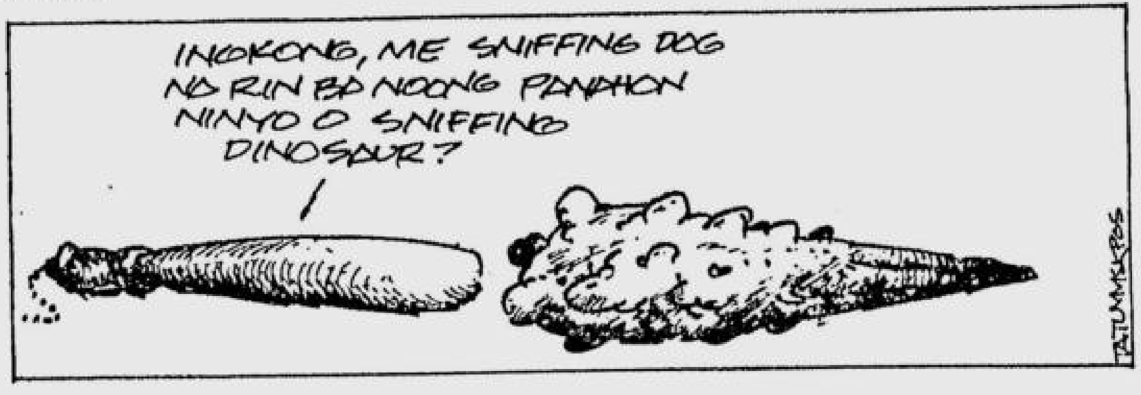
LOVEKNOTS

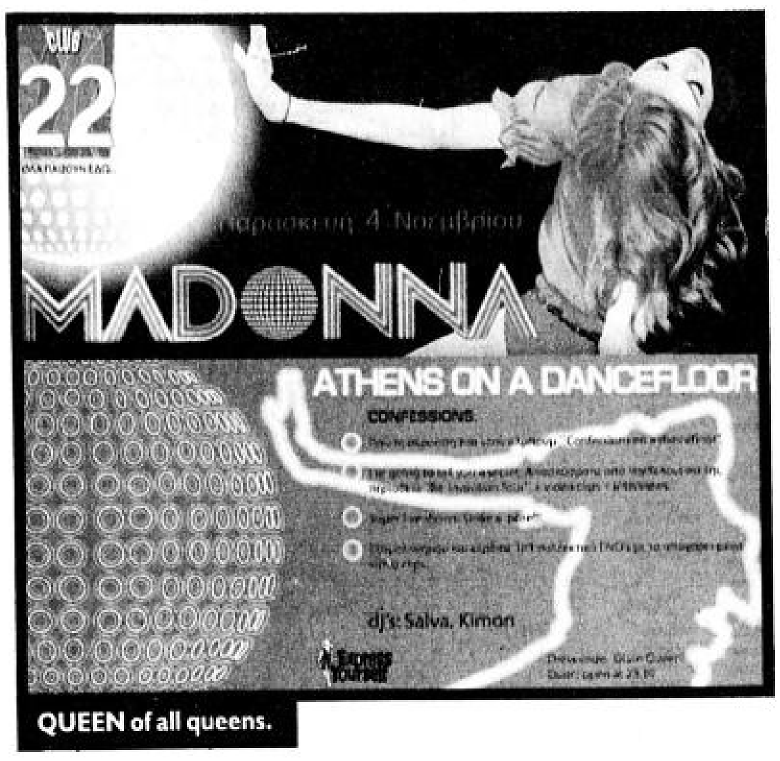
BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


DAHIL CHINESE ANG LOLO AT LOLA KO, JOWA, MAG-OFFER TAYO NG PRUTAS AT PAGKAIN!!
MGA PABORITO MONG LAHAT YAN, JOWA!!
NAPANSIN KO NGA!!! PABORITO DIN BA NILA YAN?!
HINDI NAMAN!!
E, BA'T PABORITO KO ANG INOFER MO?!
E, IKAW ANG KAKAIN NYAN, MAMAYA, EH!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

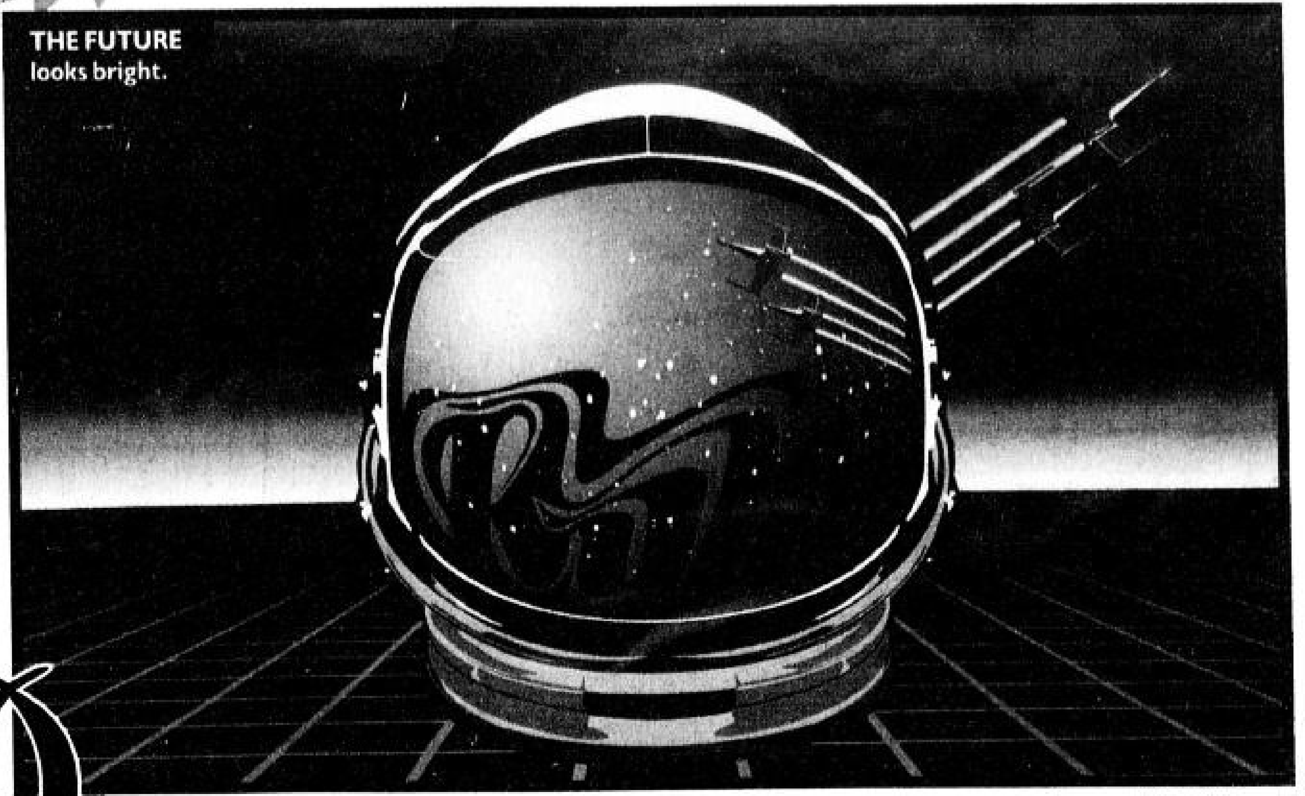
BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


INGKONG, ME SNIFFING DOG NA RIN BA NOONG PANAHON NINYO O SNIFFING DINOSAUR?
TATUMKKROS



QUEEN of all queens.

Is it time to dust off the mirror ball and hurl it into the future? Madonna's legions of fans happen to think so.



THE FUTURE looks bright.

All hail, future Disco biscuits!

From page D1

are these frontline disco biscuits? Why, mahtherrr, they're the pretty pink brigade of course! The fairies of them all, the global gay community. The hype is the official launch of Madonna's latest album, "Confessions on a Dance Floor." And history has proven in these past two decades that the release of a new Madonna album, whether cool or crap, is cause celebre for her gàjillions of fans to go out and party. I can already picture the dance floor of Government filled with screaming, sashaying queens. Bagoosshhhh!

Get up to 'Hung Up'

Of course, trust this certified fag hag to have gotten an early memo about all the hoohah, thanks to my longtime childhood friend who goes by the email tag "Divasoria." It was he who first graced my inbox in cyberspace with the album's single "Hung Up," fourteen seconds of which were first leaked in the worldwide web by zealous fans who hacked their way into the French radio station NRJ in mid-October, even before the song's global radio release date on Oct. 17. Whether this leak on the Internet was intentional or not, it did inject more bzzzz to the buzz by fans and nonfans alike, most of whom raved about what snippets they heard.

Trust "Her Madgesty" to rule modern media indeed. In October alone, the website drownedmadonna.com ticked off over 640,000 hits. The song "Hung Up" will be featured this November on crossover episodes of "CSI: Miami" and "CSI: NY." Add to all this a new documentary on the undisputed gay icon, "I'm Going to Tell you a Secret," set to premiere on a Dutch TV station.

My personal verdict? Hand me that mirror ball! "Hung Up" is radio candy, remixing a sampling of an Abba classic "Gimme! Gimme! Gimme!" with a too-groovy to resist baseline. The video even recalls John Travolta's "Saturday Night Live," replete with a retinue of hipsters on the dance floor. It's hella catchy, absolutely infectious, all good vibes, and all happy. In fact, it's so happy it's gay!

The Price of fame

Fans are thanking their lucky stars for Madonna's collaboration with DJ Stuart Price, who co-produced the album and directed two of her world tours. Price, a.k.a. Jacques Lu Cont, had lent his electro-pop sound in remixes for Gwen Stefani, The Killers and Missy Elliott.

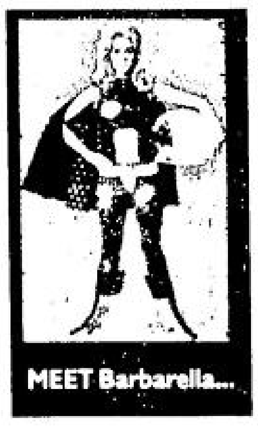
Price had been previewing some of the tracks of Madonna's new album at his club gigs around the UK, using dub versions minus the vocals to convey the "future disco" sound. He'd record the crowd's reaction with a handheld camera, and would report the next day to *Ate* Mado, "this is what a thousand people in Liverpool looked like last night dancing to our song ... you can work on a song for twelve hours but you'll know within the first ten seconds of putting it on at a club whether it works or not!" He describes "Confessions" as "unapologetic, unedited dance music" and adds, "there's a bit of a danger with dance music that you can create something that's cool but doesn't have much substance to it. Every few months, a club record comes along that hits a nerve with people, and they connect to it. They don't know why, but there is something magical in it."

The future of disco

Though I'm psyched to hear some true "Confessions," come Nov. 14, I admit I'm not wont just yet to christen this one album as the singular herald to "the future of disco"—even if it is Madonna at the helm. Amid the hype, Goldfrapp had in fact critiqued that Madonna's new sound is "clever but not creative." It does make me wonder if the future is simply the past constantly reinventing itself. Should we then be expecting "future grunge" or "future hiphop" or even God forbid, "future retro"?

All right, enough raining on the disco parade, especially before a battalion of queens start hurling their spiked heels at me! If there's one thing I'm willing to bet my metallic silver halter top on, it's that the club floors this holiday season will be erupting with a new dance anthem. Just for that, I'd say the future looks bright.

Email the author at: mezcaltals@gmail.com



MEET Barbarella...

123
SESAME STREET
ME WANT THESE SHOES ON MY FEET!
Play

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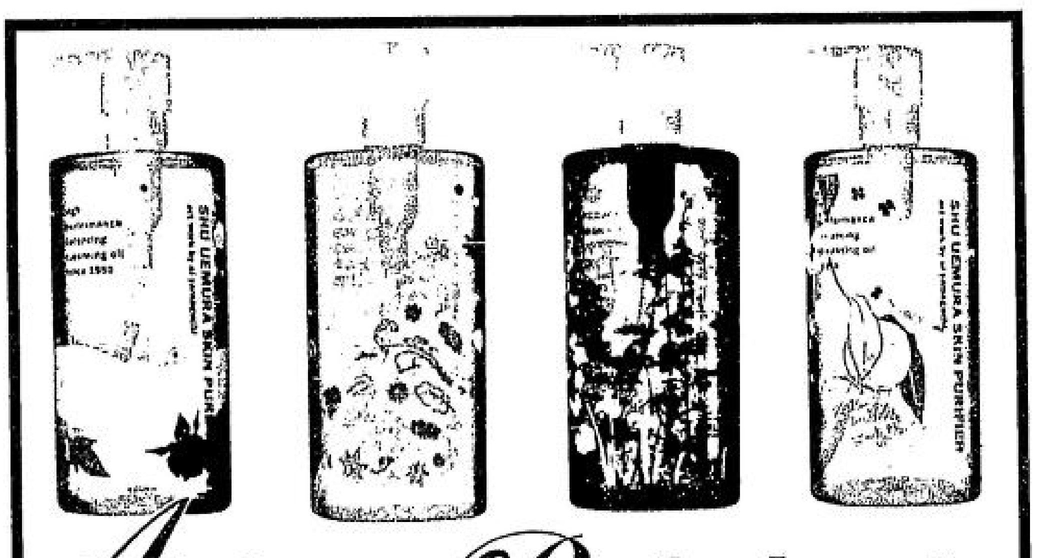

A is for art, B is for beauty, C is for charity ...

By Pam Pastor

THAT'S THE SHU UEMURA ALPHABET.

For decades now, Japanese makeup brand Shu Uemura has been in the business of making people more beautiful.

But above just constantly creating revolutionary products in the quest to prettify the world, Shu Uemura also makes a difference in other ways—by giving artists a venue for their art and by finding ways to share with the less fortunate.

This statement will again be proven true on Nov. 9, when Shu Uemura, together with two other luxury brands Motorola and Smart Infinity, hold the Shu by Ai-PEBL Launch Party at the Loft at Rockwell. The event, which is a fusion of art, nature, technology and beauty, will celebrate the launch of Shu Uemura's Limited Edition Cleansing Oils by Japanese Artist Ai Yamaguchi, inspired by the beauty of the changing seasons, and Motorola's newest must-have phone—the Motorola PEBL.

The highlight of the event is an auction of limited edition Ai Yamaguchi works of art not available for regular sale—Hake Brush Sets (kabuki makeup brushes mounted on panels depicting the seasons as envisioned by Ai Yamaguchi), limited edition Lithographs and complete sets of Limited Edition Cleansing Oils in specially designed gift boxes with decorative artwork by Ai Yamaguchi.

Motorola is also showing their commitment to the cause by commissioning young, hip Filipino artists Kiko Escora, Jason Moss, Maria Taniguchi and Team Manila—all named the MOTOARTISTS—to create their own interpretations of the "PEBL—shaped by nature." Their works of art will be unveiled at the event and will be auctioned off along with Ai Yamaguchi's work.

Guests are asked to come glamorously dressed for their favorite season. The best dressed of each season will be the first in the country to receive the sought-after PEBL phone.

Following Mr. Shu Uemura's philosophies—"beauty without boundaries" and that "children are the artists of the future"—proceeds for the sales will go to L'Arche Foundation—a charity organization for special children.

Now that's beauty that won't fade with age. The Shu by Ai Limited Edition Cleansing Oils are now available at Shu Uemura counters in Rustan's Makati and Rustan's Shangri-La Plaza Mall. The Motorola PEBL will be available in November.

Now, a credit card that offers all the privileges a working woman deserves.

And to welcome the woman of the Metrobank Femme Visa, we're giving away a free three-month subscription to Mega Magazine and offering other features especially for the career woman! Call 8-700-700 for details.

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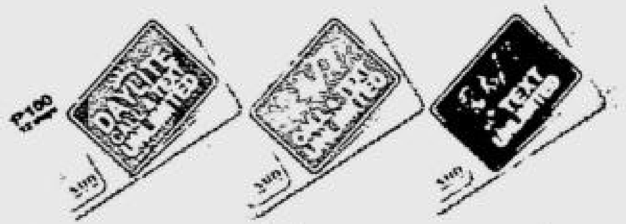

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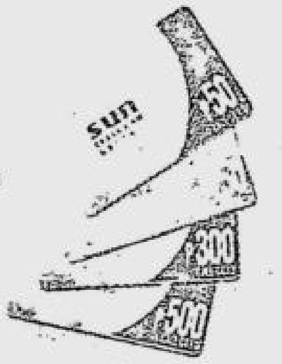

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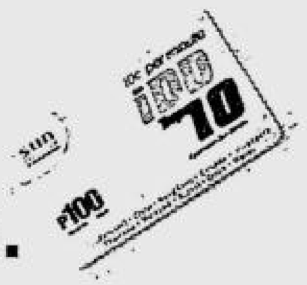
Regular-to-Regular Comparison

	Brand X	Brand Y	Sun Cellular
REGULAR AIRTIME RATE			
Calls to same network	6.50	6.50	5.50
Calls to other networks	7.50	7.50	6.50
Calls to landline	7.50	7.50	6.50
REGULAR TEXT RATES			
Text to same network	1.00	1.00	0.50
Text to other networks	1.00	1.00	1.00
INTERNATIONAL TEXT RATES	10.00	15.00	9.00

	Brand X	Brand Y	Sun Cellular
MMS Local	3.00	5.00	2.00
MMS International	20.00	20.00	20.00
DOWNLOADING			
Ringtones	20.00	15.00	15.00
Wallpapers	20.00	15.00	15.00
Video Clips	25.00	20.00	20.00

*Based on i-Text rates

Choose Sun's Lowest Mobile IDD Rate. Choose 10¢ per minute.



Choose to bridge more people, choose Sun.

At 10¢/min, our IDD Top 10 rate brings more smiles for miles.

Permanent Rate Comparison

	Brand X	Brand Y	Sun Cellular
IDD	$0.40	$0.40	$0.10*

*Applies to the following most frequently-called destinations: U.S. (Mainland), China, Hong Kong, Canada, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei, Guam and Macau.

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P50-74	8	7 days
P75-99	12	10 days
P100-124	16	15 days
P125-149	20	20 days
P150	25	30 days

LIFESTYLE / D1

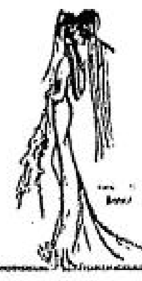
Wine bar in the clouds stacked by the masters, c/o Singapore Airlines

NEWS / A2

Noli on Babao: He was just doing job to get scoop

SPORTS / A23

QC, Centro post Battle of the Courts sweep; finals today



LIFESTYLE / C1

Inno Sotto wears his grief on his sleeve, mounts 'Beloved' fashion gala

British student finds Metro Manila a city of extremes

By Mark Fenton
Contributor

WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED IN MANILA, I immediately experienced a sensory and cultural overload. After listening to a taxi driver speak with a thick accent, seeing people in T-shirts emblazoned with the names of Ameri-

BRITISH/ A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
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website: www.inq7.net

Porn-to-go: Portable sex is big business in iPod era

iPOD?
¡SUS!
¡BASTOS!!!

SAN FRANCISCO—SEX sells even in tiny packages, especially when it's portable.

Purveyors of porn and entrepreneurs espied a niche when Apple Computer Inc. unveiled its

PORN-TO-GO/ A6

Rape case vs GIs 'strong'

Lawyer says US soldiers made victim drink 7 glasses of vodka

SUDDENLY, IT LOOKS A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS. Just around a corner of New Manila, Quezon City, these replicas of Mr. Christmas himself are selling post-EVAT for P3,000 (smallest) and P15,000 (biggest). It feels good to discover that contrary to rumors that Santa Claus may skip the coup-crazed, economically and politically-challenged Philippines this year, Santa's suddenly here. Sneaked in while we were trying so hard to look beyond the day's destablization plot into some kind of future, if any.

JOAN BONDOC

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk
and Volt Contreras
in Manila

THE FILIPINO WOMAN Allegedly raped by US Marines on the night of Nov. 1 at the Subic Bay Freeport has a "strong case" against her attackers, according to a lawyer who led the legal team that first assisted her.

For one thing, lawyer Carlitos Cruz said yesterday, the elements of premeditation were present. "She was seduced into drinking seven glasses of vodka tonic. These could be spiked with drugs—the reason why she came out dizzy," he said.

Cruz is the senior consultant of Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority Chair Feliciano Salonga, who asked him to help get the woman's sworn statement.

The woman, a 22-year-old college graduate from Zamboanga, met the soldiers while she and her sister, both visiting as tourists, went bar-hopping at the Subic port that night.

They ended up at the Neptune bar, Cruz said, recalling the main contents of the woman's statement filed on Thursday at the Olongapo City prosecutor's office.

RAPE CASE/ A6

From Payatas to Assumption, girl finds path to bright future

By Niña Terol
Contributor

SHE GRADUATED FROM A PUBLIC high school in Payatas, Quezon City, three years ago, uncertain of how she could bring her family closer to the good life.

Now, Mary Rose Patingo is a full-fledged Assumptionista, making her way gracefully through Assumption College's genteel community, confident that a brighter future is within her reach.

"I used to be really shy," Rose admitted as she mused over the changes in her life in the past three years. "Now, because I'm a scholar, people come to me expecting me to know things, and they usually tap me to be the group leader for projects and activities."

Adjusting to her new role was not easy for Rose. She had to not only

FROM PAYATAS/ A6

Top Abu leader with P5-M bounty falls; GMA elated

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.
and Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau

YEARS OF A MANHUNT ENDED YESTERDAY when Philippine police captured Radulan Sahiron, a one-armed, horse-riding Abu Sayyaf bandit leader on the US wanted list, President Macapagal-Arroyo announced.

An elated Arroyo, speaking on government television, said the notorious terrorist leader was arrested at 4:30 p.m. by units led by Police Senior Supt. Rodolfo (Boogie) Mendoza.

She gave no other details but Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said the capture occurred in Barangay Gitabog in the municipality of Titay in Zamboanga Sibugay.

Bunye said the operation to get Sahiron was a special project of Executive Secretary and former defense chief Eduardo Ermita.

"I would like to commend our police and soldiers because ... they caught the notorious Abu Sayyaf leader, Radulan Sahiron, who has a P5 million [reward] on his head," Ms Arroyo said on NBN 4 network.

Ms Arroyo said the intelligence project to capture Sahiron had been going on for a long time, way back since Ermita was defense secretary.

"Now he is caught, congratulations to police Colonel Mendoza," she said.

Philippine National Police Director General Arturo Lomibao said that Sahiron—the Abu Sayyaf's chief of staff also known as Kumander Putol—was captured in a special police operation.

"It looks like he was hiding down there," Lomibao said, adding that he had ordered officers to fly Sahiron to Manila today.

The President's announcement caught the local police in Zamboanga Sibugay flatfooted. Provincial police director Roseller Arieta said he had no idea about the arrest.

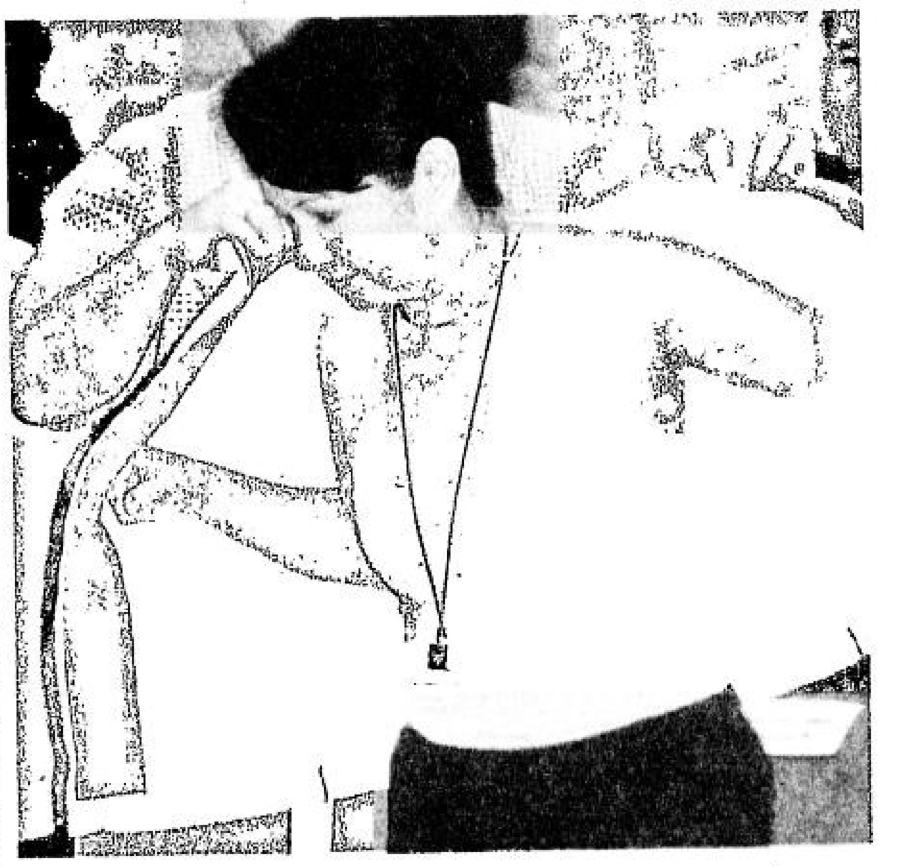
Third Marine Brigade Commander Col. Juancho Sabban, whose main base is located in Patikul, Sulu, where Sahiron normally operates, said his units had not monitored any Abu Sayyaf movement in his area and had not conducted a single operation against Sahiron's group, at least recently.

He also expressed surprise at the announcement in Manila.

Sahiron is the latest of a growing list of Abu Sayyaf leaders to have either been captured or killed by Philippine security forces.

The group's main spokesperson, Abu

TOP/ A5



NO. 1 CHEERLEADER. President Arroyo takes time out to cheer on the Philippine team to the Southeast Asian Games during First Friday Mass at the Philsports Arena. Philippine Olympic Committee president Peping Cojuangco helps Ms Arroyo put on a SEA Games sports jacket. LYN RILLON

improves memory
takip-kuhol
ulasimang-aso
enhances memory
detoxifies liver
sampa-sampalukan
sinta
has effect on the common cold
ampalaya
controls diabetes anti-leukemia
ampalayang-gubat
rejuvenating elixir

THE DOCTOR IS OUT. Dr. Dietmar Rummel toils in the wilds researching botanicals not as a quick fix but for preventive care, repairing wounds and saving lives.

Rx from Herr(b) doctor: Back to your roots

By Lynett A. Villariba

IN THIS STATE OF FEARFUL WAITING FOR the avian flu to strike, there is no other defense that human beings can put up but their immune system.

And there is nowhere else for them to go but their roots—their botanical roots.

Thanks to his passion for Philippine plants, German physician Dietmar Rummel is according Filipino consumers natural, time-tested and affordable alternatives to expensive drugs at a time when the pharmaceutical industry is reeling from the fallout of its Vioxx debacle.

Since coming to the Philippines in 1993, the "herr[b] doctor" (as some refer to him) has evaluated 900 plants endemic to the country and identified healing potentials in 300 of them.

Selecting 250 healing plants on the strength of scientific evidence, researcher Rummel has organized his monographs into five—going on seven—books that can provide remedies to the rising rates of ailments and skyrocketing prices of drugs.

Two of three volumes on "Useful Plants of the Philippines," a scientific guide for researchers, are now in bookstores, courtesy of C and E Publishing.

Cosmetics users and producers would benefit from his latest book, a compendium titled "Botanical Beauty Book," recently launched by the same publisher.

But where is Dietmar Rummel coming from when he urges Filipinos to return to their botanical roots?

Rummel was a doctor of natural medicine in Germany until a car accident abruptly interrupted a 25-year active practice and turned his destiny toward botanical research.

Trained in medical school in phyto-(or plant) therapy, which prescribes botanical medicines as a natural healing method, he set off to rekindle his life-long passion for plants.

As fate would have it, he met and married a Filipino who took him to her botanically underdeveloped country.

Upon arriving in the Philippines, Rummel suffered severe asthma attacks because of the ever-present pollution.

"Chemical medicine helped some," he says. "But then I found *lagundi*, aka *vitex negundo*

RX/ A5

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Bicol Region, Eastern Visayas, and Eastern and Southern Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

COMPILED BY JAMIE ALARCON, PDI RESEARCH/11/06/05 SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Dawud Santos: I'm no terrorist

A MUSLIM CONVERT ACCUSED BY THE MILItary of planning bomb attacks in Metro Manila denied yesterday he was a terrorist or had jumped bail, and declared he was ready to face new charges of rebellion filed by the government recently to ensure he remained in jail.

In a radio interview, Tyrone "Dawud" Santos denied military claims he had jumped bail, pointing out he had attended all legal proceedings since his arrest last March on charges of illegal possession of explosives.

"I am not a bad person. I am not a terrorist," said Santos, who called up the radio station dzMM from an undisclosed location.

Asked if he would turn himself in to face a new charge of rebellion filed against him and several other alleged terrorists by the Department of Justice last Thursday, Santos replied, "I am ready to face that. I will not hide, I am not hiding. I have no reason to hide."

Tyrone Santos belongs to a group of converts to Islam called the Rajah Solaiman Movement (RSM), started by his brother Hilarion "Ahmad" Santos, who was arrested last week in Zamboanga City. The military has linked the RSM to the Southeast Asian terrorist group Jemaah Islamiyah and the local Abu Sayyaf Group, both of which have been linked to al-Qaida.

Both the Abu Sayyaf and RSM have been blamed by the military for terror attacks in Manila and elsewhere in the country early this year.

In the interview, Santos denied he was involved in any bomb plot. "I don't know anything about bombings," he said.

In a telephone interview with the INQUIRER, Santos' lawyer, Nicomedes Martelino, also denied that his client had been hiding and pointed out he showed up for a court hearing on his explosives possession case in Tarlac last Thursday.

A military intelligence officer who asked not to be identified lest his cover be blown said the military was not taking any action against Santos because he was legitimately out on bail and there were no pending arrest warrants against him.

"Unless the court declares a violation of his bail contract... we can (not) go after him," added the official.

Prosecutors who filed the rebellion charges before a court in Makati last Thursday said they expected a new arrest warrant against Santos to be issued next week. The rebellion charge does not allow for bail.

Meanwhile, two administration lawmakers said yesterday that the television and radio network ABS-CBN and its broadcaster Julius Babao should answer allegations made by Jonathan Tiongco and the Armed Forces that they had expedited Tyrone Santos' bail. Citing military intelligence, President Macapagal-Arroyo had claimed earlier that Babao had posted Santos' bail.

Babao has denied putting up Santos' bail and the network has said it was conducting an investigation to see if Babao had violated journalistic ethics in his exclusive interview of Santos shortly after he was freed on bail last April 26.

Representatives Douglas Cagas (NPC, Davao del Sur) and Mauricio Domogan (Lakas, Baguio City) said the network and Babao should clear up the issue once and for all.

"We believe Mr. Babao and ABS-CBN should answer all these issues directly to clear the matter once and for all, considering that very specific information has now been unearthed by authorities," Cagas said. *Dona Z. Pazzibugan, Philip C. Tubeza, AFP*

Noli on Julius Babao: I'd do the same

By Cynthia D. Balana

BREAKING HIS SILENCE ON THE case of fellow ABS-CBN broadcaster Julius Babao, Vice President Noli de Castro yesterday said he did not believe Babao had put up the bail for terror suspect Tyrone "Dawud" Santos, as the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp) has claimed.

De Castro said Babao was merely doing his job as a reporter "to get a scoop."

As for Babao allowing Santos to ride in an ABS-CBN vehicle and allegedly coaching the suspect in open court, De Castro did not see anything wrong with that since, he said, Babao was just trying to get an exclusive.

"Even I would do what Julius did. In fact, we do the same thing at 'Magandang Gabi Bayan.' We make the person we are interviewing ride with us so the other TV networks won't have the interview. We really stick close so we can get a scoop. What is wrong with that?" he said.

But he said what happened to Babao was an "isolated case" and should not be seen as an attempt by the government to muzzle the media.

He said there was no concrete proof of a supposed government crackdown on media organizations and personalities critical of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

"The government isn't going to interfere with press freedom. I myself will oppose that," De Castro said in Filipino.

De Castro said he had known Babao for a long time and he did not believe he was guilty of the charges being imputed to him, including abetting a terrorist.

"I don't know what evidence the Isafp has against him but they said it was only circumstantial. From what I know of Julius, he can't possibly do it, especially pay for the bail of Dawud. That Julius is so stingy," he said.

De Castro also pointed out that at the time of his arrest, Santos was only charged with illegal possession of firearms, a bailable offense, and not with rebellion.

De Castro interviewed Santos on his dzMM radio program yesterday in which Santos clarified that Babao had neither posted nor facilitated the posting of his bail. He said it was his three wives who had asked relatives and friends to put up the bail money.

De Castro, however, refused to comment on whether the President had committed a lapse in judgment when she revealed the details of the classified report on Babao to INQUIRER columnist Ramon Tulfo.

Palace 'iffy' on legislated wage hike

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

LESS THAN A WEEK AFTER President Macapagal-Arroyo asked Congress to raise the minimum wage across-the-board, Malacañang appeared to be backtracking from its request.

With her economic managers and business allies frowning on the populist move, the Palace is expected to ask Congress, instead, to empower the regional wage boards (RWBs) to increase wages more than once in a 12-month period, according to Raul Concepcion, chair of Consumer and Oil Price Watch.

"This is the most reasonable solution to finding a compromise between labor's need to cope with the rising cost of goods and and management's concern in the sustained viability of their businesses," Concepcion said yesterday.

The law which created the wage boards allows them to increase wages only once in a 12-month period.

Concepcion said he had talked not only with his peers in business but also with top government officials, such as Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, Finance Secretary Margarito Teves, and Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas, and all of them balked at a legislated wage hike, especially in a job market with a high rate of unemployment.

Concepcion said the businessmen and government executives agreed that the RWBs were still the best way to adjust wages reasonably.

"We didn't see the need to bring Congress into the picture because it has no power or skill to negotiate on labor matters. Labor, management and the government agencies have that covered," Concepcion said.

Ms Arroyo announced on Nov. 3 her support for a legislated wage hike in a turnaround from her 4-year policy to let all wage adjustments pass through RWBs and not Congress.

Ermita explained that Malacañang wanted to help ease the effects of the expanded valued added tax on the masses by raising the minimum wage but this could only be done in the near term through congressional action because the RWBs already approved last July an average 8 percent hike in wages.

Thus, it must wait another year before it could make another adjustment.

Concepcion said that when it was clarified that the RWBs could increase wages more than once a year if there was a "supervening event," the government executives readily agreed to let the RWBs decide or increases.

A Malacañang source said that in calling for a legislated wage hike, Ms Arroyo was shifting the burden of lifting wages from the executive to the legislative branch.

"The President wants to let them sweat after giving her grief on the VAT passage," the source said, referring to the difficulties Ms Arroyo's tax measure went through before it was enacted.

Cory receives Rockefeller Award

FORMER PRESIDENT CORAzon C. Aquino was recently conferred the 2005 David Rockefeller Award for Bridging Leadership by the Synergos Institute, an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to the development of effective, sustainable and locally-based solutions to poverty.

The other awardee was former World Bank president James D. Wolfensohn.

Aquino and Wolfensohn were both honored for their lifelong work and for their more recent accomplishments as "bridging leaders."

Aquino was also cited for her continuing efforts, as chairperson of the Benigno S. Aquino Jr. Foundation (BSAF), to empower poor communities in the socioeconomic sphere in collaboration with various sectors of Philippine civil society.

Wolfensohn was recognized for successfully carrying out his difficult mission as special envoy for Gaza disengagement for the Quartet principals.

David Rockefeller, Mark Malloch Brown, Chef de Cabinet to the United Nations Secretary General, and John C. Whitehead, chair of the Lower Manhattan Development Corp., presented the awards during the Synergos Global Philanthropists Circle annual meeting on Nov. 2 in Brooklyn, New York.

In her acceptance speech, Aquino recalled how the challenge of "bridging leadership" was thrust upon her shoulders after the assassination of her husband, former Senator Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino, in 1983.

The former President said that she swiftly harnessed the talents and energy of as many Filipinos as possible after the Edsa People Power revolution which catapulted her to power. She set free all political prisoners and established projects like Kabisig, which helps communities out of poverty through livelihood projects.

She expressed the hope that she would live to see People Power fulfill its promise of making a dramatic impact on the quality of life of the Filipino people. "People Power is about finding and unleashing the leader in each one of us. It is about harnessing the inherent integrity, the sense of compassion, the will to make sacrifices, and the courage to take risks to achieve goals that would serve the common good. Each of us is called to do our share. It is about building little bridges to people who can make a difference in their own lives and the lives of others."

Synergos presents the award each year to persons who had exemplified bridging, partnership and dedication to the common good.

Headquartered in New York, Synergos has staff in Asia, Latin America and Southern Africa who work with partners to mobilize resources and bridge social and economic divides to reduce poverty and increase equity.

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Enrile won't 'bequeath' forests of W Samar

By TJ Burgonio

IGNORING APPEALS TO "BEqueath" the forests of Western Samar as his legacy, Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile isn't about to waive his logging firm's rights to log anew in the province after getting a favorable ruling from the government after 16 years of waiting.

"If the environmentalists want to expropriate my property, let them do it. But they can't tell me how to handle our rights," Enrile said in a phone interview.

Finally breaking his silence, Enrile, however, made the assurance that his firm, San Jose Timber Corp. (SJTC), would harvest trees selectively in a 95,770-ha area in the province, as it had been doing for 22 years until it was stopped in 1989.

"We're not going to destroy the forest. We will preserve it," he said. "We will do selective logging operations there... We're not unscrupulous people who will just cut down trees right and left."

By selective logging, the senator said his firm would harvest trees that are at least 70-cm in diameter.

"They should see how we do logging operations without destroying the forest," he said, stressing that his firm employs forest management experts and uses forest management methods adopted from Burma (Myanmar).

Environmentalists have appealed to Enrile to give up his concession and "bequeath" it as a heritage area after the Department of Environment and Natural Resources allowed his firm to resume logging operations in the province.

"What the people of Samar are saying is that if the senator really loves the Philippines, he must be gracious enough to bequeath [his concession] as a heritage area," development expert Minerva Gonzales said.

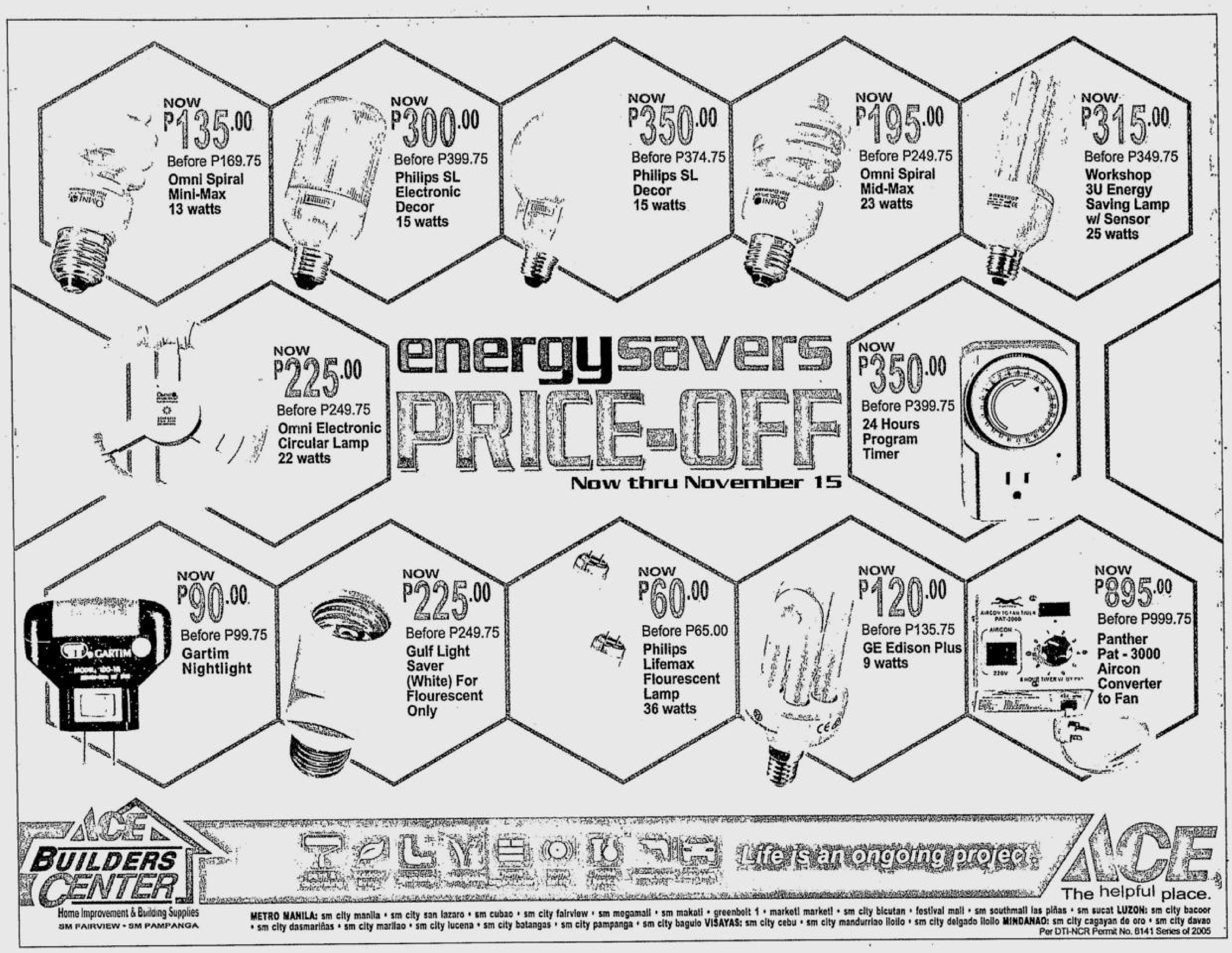
The senator had earlier declared, through his media relations officer, that his firm would not operate the concession.

SJTC's timber licensing agreement (TLA) covers an area which is right in the heart of the sprawling 333,000-ha Samar Island Nature Park (SINP), home to the only healthy lowland forests on the island that encompasses Northern, Western and Eastern Samar provinces.

The SINP is a component of the $12.8-million Samar Island Biodiversity Project (SIBP) funded by the Global Environment Facility, the United Nations Development Fund, US Agency for International Development, the Philippine government and NGOs.

The project was intended to preserve the remaining lowland forests in the island.

"I'm not saying that we should not have a nature park. Why should they expropriate our property without just compensation? That's the effect of what these people are saying," Enrile said. "I did not acquire this property from the government. My family bought it from the first owners."



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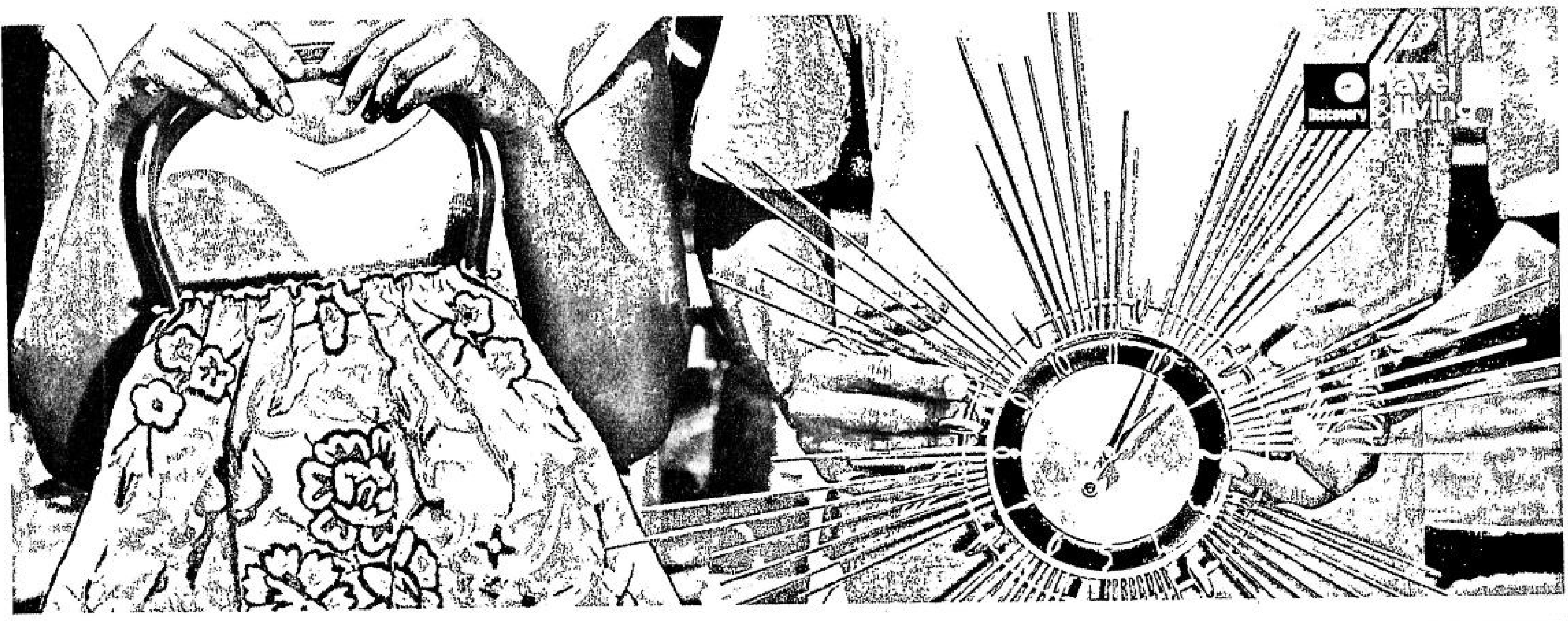

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Rx from Herr(b) doctor: Back to your roots

From page A1

… and that was the breakthrough."

A year or two later, he came down with kidney stones because he found it difficult to drink the required amount of water despite the heat.

"There is no real treatment option for this problem in pharmaceutical medicine. Again it was a botanical that did the trick for me: *sambong*, aka *blumea balsamifera*," he says.

Another, *cocos nucifera*, the juice of the young coconut (*buko*), "helped me greatly to balance my electrolytes and to prevent those painful kidney stone attacks."

The more Rummel learned about the secrets of plants, the more he became convinced of his mission "to influence people to go back to our roots—our botanical roots" and thus liberate consumers from a dependence on high-priced chemical drugs with no safety guarantee.

Herbal authority

Rummel, 61, has finally found his niche in Philippine botanicals to become the herbal authority sought by local medical professionals, the government and an emerging nutraceutical industry.

Many cosmetics companies launched their products after his seminars and lectures when he was a consultant of the natural products division of Citem (Center for International Trade, Exhibitions and Missions) under the Department of Trade and Industry.

In underscoring Rummel's contribution to local herbal medicine practice, then Health Undersecretary Dr. Jaime Tan was reported to have referred to him as an "honorary Filipino."

Today, consumers benefit from some 80 health and personal care products that he has nurtured to fruition.

Formulations

Consumers may be familiar with "Ampalaya Plus," a natural supplement in tablets for diabetics, which Rummel made from the Charantia plant "without the seeds, which can be toxic."

He attests to almost 100 studies that have demonstrated the blood-sugar-lowering effect of this bitter fruit.

In another formulation called "Liveright," which local health practitioners prescribe for the treatment of fatty liver (caused by fatty food and alcohol intake), Rummel found a better substitute to milk thistle (aka *silymarin*) in the Tagalog *sinta* plant, and added *takip kuhol* and *luyang dilaw*.

He has also tapped the *sinta*, which he found to be the only immune modifier with an effect on the common cold, adding Vitamin C and zinc to formulate an herbal supplement called "BoDefense."

He recently formulated "Memory" syrup and tablets from the Tagalog *ulasimang aso* (*bacopa monniera*), a succulent herb used in ancient Ayurvedic medicine to enhance the memory and intellect, adding *takip kuhol* (gotu kola), green tea, *ampalayang-gubat* (leaf ginseng) and soy lecithin.

Awarded first prize as best product for brain nourishment last December by the Consumer Association of the Philippines, the herbal medicine's formulator is a walking testimonial to its efficacy as he credits the phytonutrients with helping him finish his books on time.

Poison or medicine

Drawing from his long experience in phytotherapy, Rummel allays the fear of Filipino medical professionals that plants may be toxic because most have not been tested on humans by quoting the 16th-century Swiss doctor Paracelsus: "It's the dosage that makes a plant a poison or a medicine."

He says the appropriate way would be "to find out at what dosage toxicity will occur in animal tests" because most medicinal plants have withstood the test of time, having been used on humans and animals for hundreds, occasionally even thousands, of years.

His studies are focused on "what the plant does best, based on the large number of active constituents present."

Dosage is important in dispensing herbal medicine. Rummel is currently burning the midnight oil writing his next two volumes of "Primary Health Care," which he says will include the prescribed dosage that both laymen and health professionals can use.

Way of life

After sorting through 250 useful plants, Herr Doctor Rummel says he is not yet done. "We should exploit more natural products, which in the future will show the cure for many illnesses."

His prescription: Nature should be viewed not as a quick fix but as a way of life. It works best in preventive care. Science only steps in where nature fails—repairing wounds, saving lives in crisis.

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Top Abu leader …

From page A1

Sabaya, was killed three years ago in an operation that reportedly used US tracking devices and relied on live video from a US spy plane overhead.

Last year, three detained Abu Sayyaf leaders, including Galib Andang (Commander Robot), Alhamsar Manatad Limbong (Kosovo) and Nadsmi Sabdullah (Global), were killed in a police assault on a jail in Camp Bagong Diwa in Bicutan, Taguig City, which they had taken over.

THE SLIPPERY Radulan Sahiron: 21 kidnap-for-ransom cases

$5M reward

Sahiron is linked to 21 kidnap-for-ransom cases, including the April 2000 abduction of 21 Western tourists and Asian workers from the Sipadan resort in neighboring Malaysia.

On the US defense department list of wanted terrorists, Sahiron and Abu Sayyaf chieftain Khaddafy Janjalani are among five leaders wanted for the kidnapping and killings of American hostages Martin Burnham and Guillermo Sobero.

The US government had offered a $5 million reward for information leading to their arrest and conviction, and had placed the Abu Sayyaf on its list of terrorist organizations.

As an outlaw, Sahiron rode a horse through the dense mountain jungle and enjoyed a reputation as some kind of Robin Hood among local residents of Jolo, an island known as a hotbed of Muslim separatist insurgency.

Local people would talk about how he helped the poor and of how he eluded US-backed troops sent to capture him.

Until his downfall yesterday, Sahiron and other Abu Sayyaf leaders linked by Washington to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network had remained free by using the familiar terrain of Jolo to quickly blend into or slip away from with the support of sympathizers.

"He's really slippery," Gen. Agustin Demaala once said of Sahiron, who is in his sixties. "But there will come a time when he'll commit a mistake, and I'm waiting for that time." *With a report from Luige del Puerto and AP*

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Rape case vs GIs 'strong'

From page A1

Six servicemen have been named in the case, but the US Embassy has since said only five were tagged in the alleged rape and barred from leaving the country.

The servicemen are in the embassy's custody but will be presented to the courts once formal charges are filed, embassy officials have said.

By force

Information gathered by the INQUIRER showed that the rape victim graduated from the Ateneo de Davao University in Davao City two or three years ago with a management degree. Her family reportedly runs an eatery inside the Southern Command (Southcom) in Zamboanga City that also caters to US personnel.

Apparently, the soldiers invited the woman away from her sister, Cruz said.

Timoteo Soriano, the driver of the group's rented Starex van, had stated that one of the soldiers pulled at the woman and forced her to ride with them.

"That soldier threatened to break the van's windshield if she didn't [get in]," Cruz said.

This was Soriano's account, according to Cruz:

The van moved slowly along Dewey Avenue inside the freeport. At one point, the group told the driver to park, ordered him to get out and locked him out.

"*Magulo, maingay*,"(Agitated, noisy) was how the driver described the clangor he heard from outside the van.

"F--k! F--k!" the driver heard the soldiers yelling to the woman, who by that time was shouting for help.

"They did not want to open the van," the driver said.

A few minutes later, the soldiers ordered Soriano to drive westward in the direction of Pier I, in front of where the USS Essex was docked.

Like a pig

At that point, two witnesses—the younger brother of a mayor in Zambales and that man's wife—saw two Americans carrying the woman out of the van like a pig *("parang baboy")*, Cruz said.

The woman was reportedly clad only in her underwear. The witnesses saw the soldiers throw her pants at her, Cruz said.

A condom and the trip ticket of the rented van were found in the pants.

"*Iyak nang iyak* (She kept on crying). She was in a state of shock when found," Cruz said.

"Granted that only one did it to her, the act of one is the act of all," the lawyer said. "The concerted action of the five men pointed to the conspiracy of all to commit rape."

Cruz said that even if the soldiers paid damages for their civil liability, they still would have to face criminal liability.

"Rape is a public crime" with a penalty of imprisonment for 30 years," Cruz said, adding:

"What the Philippine government should do is provide her safe refuge and a good legal team to help her win the case."

Cheering him on

The Associated Press quoted Zambales Rep. Milagros Magsaysay, whose district includes part of Subic, as saying that she spoke with the woman on Wednesday.

Magsaysay said the woman claimed she was raped inside a van as it was being driven through Subic, but that she couldn't remember details because she passed out.

The lawmaker quoted the driver of the van as saying that one of the Marines raped the woman while the others cheered him on.

Efforts by the INQUIRER to get a copy of the woman's sworn statement were blocked, apparently by retired Gen. Jose Calimlim, SBMA vice president for operations and chief of the agency's intelligence and investigation division.

Officials reached by the INQUIRER gave a standard reply to the request: Get the copy from the Olongapo prosecutor's office.

An SBMA source said Calimlim "took it upon himself, without authority from Chairman Salonga," to restrict the information.

'No resistance'

"But this is a purely legal matter now. The security work is over because the woman's custody has already been transferred," the source said, angry at Calimlim's alleged unwarranted strictness in the case.

But in Manila, a ranking Filipino official assigned to monitor the case quoted Soriano as saying that he and his lawyer were planning to hold a press conference shortly to "contest" what had been presented as his sworn statement on the incident.

The official, who said he interviewed Soriano last Friday, said the latter answered "no" when asked if he had "felt or heard any sign of struggle or refusal" on the part of the woman.

Soriano said he could not see all the passengers behind him all the time because he kept his eyes on the road during the alleged rape, the official said.

And though he could hear "shouts" from the Americans, he could only make out the recurring word "F--k!"

"So I asked him if he felt or heard any sign of struggle. *Sa palagay mo ba, pumalag* (Do you think there was resistance)? He answered no," the official told the INQUIRER on the phone.

"He is pretty sure there was no gang rape," the official said.

He said Soriano had maintained that his six passengers "did not change places" the whole time he was driving the van nonstop for 10 to 15 minutes.

The official asked not to be named because, he said, he was "not at liberty to go into the merits" of the case.

Seating arrangement

"According to him (Soriano), he never mentioned 'gang rape' or even the word 'rape' in the sworn statement he was made to sign," the official said.

Soriano also supposedly managed to remember the seating arrangement in the van: Beside him on the front seat was an American named Carpentier or Carpenter; three Americans occupied the middle seats, including one named Borris; the Filipino woman and another American sat in the rear.

The official who did not want to be named said he called Soriano to a meeting in a government office in Manila on Friday. The driver disclosed then that he had hired a lawyer, but the latter was not present at the meeting.

Later in the interview with the INQUIRER, the official, a lawyer, hinted at being fearful that fellow Filipinos would accuse him of "bias" because "this latest narration is favorable to the Americans."

"If he (Soriano) will stand by what he just said until the hearings, I see the weakening of the case to a lesser crime. Or it might even be dismissed. At best it may be simple rape, if there was no consent," the official said.

The official said Soriano's "demeanor" during the meeting was that of someone who was "sincere and just after the truth."

Jurisdiction

Philippine courts have jurisdiction over rape cases filed against American servicemen.

According to a primer on the RP-US Visiting Forces Agreement, only cases concerning crimes committed in line with official duties may be turned over to US courts.

Official duty is defined as "acts which are required or authorized to be done as a function of that duty which the individual is performing, and not all acts by an individual during the period while he is on duty."

American soldiers accused of rape are not immune to prosecution in the Philippines because rape will "never be considered an act done in the performance of that duty," the primer said. *With a report from Jamie Alarcon, PDI Research*

Justice will prevail, GMA assures public

By Gil Cabacungan Jr.

MALACAÑANG YESTERDAY moved to stem the simmering public sentiment against the US servicemen involved in the alleged rape of a Filipino woman and aired the assurance that the Philippine criminal justice system would "prevail."

"Let us not act like a lynch mob because we ourselves do not want Filipinos to be lynched in other countries where they may have run afoul of the law," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in a statement.

The alleged rape of the college graduate from Zamboanga has sparked fresh outrage against the US government and the Palace's apparent kid-gloves treatment of the case.

But according to Bunye, "the Philippines stands for justice, the dignity of women and the rule of law, and these shall be pursued and fulfilled by the government."

He added: "Let every one be assured that we will pursue full justice for the victim and dignity for our country. The process for cases such as this have been established under the [RP-US Visiting Forces Agreement] and it shall be followed to the letter. Philippine criminal justice will prevail."

US troops who take part in joint exercises here are subject to the VFA, which provides special legal protection for actions taken as part of the war games but provides less protection for crimes committed while on leave.

Shield

In an earlier interview with RMN radio, Bunye said critics had "wrongly interpreted" the VFA as a shield behind which visiting US servicemen could engage in criminal behavior without fear of retribution.

He said both the Department of Foreign Affairs and the US Embassy had been doing their jobs "as far as seeing to it that justice is done."

But former Vice President Teofisto Guingona called on the government to take decisive action on the case.

"This is a private offense. It does not involve official conduct. It does not involve the security of the US Armed Forces. There is no reason why the Philippines should not get jurisdiction to try here and determine the penalty so that justice may be served," Guingona said.

He added: "Here, the honor of the victim is not the sole concern. It is also reflective of the nation's dignity and honor.

'Sexual terrorism'

Sen. Joker Arroyo said it was to the interest of the US government to look into and announce its findings on the "sexual terrorism" allegedly committed on a Filipino woman "before it loses its clout in asking other countries to fall in line in its drive against global terrorism."

The senator said in a statement: "Here lies the moral equation. The US has the most sophisticated and advanced intelligence facilities and methods unmatched by any country to determine the truth of what has happened in an incident. It can track down any offender in the innermost recesses ... of the world. The raping sextet is already being cradled in US custody. Unfortunately for the Philippines, she has absolutely no physical control over them.

"The US berates the Philippines for being soft on terrorism. Will the US be soft on sexual terrorism? The Philippines and the world would be better off if they know whether the US champions a double standard." *With Fe Zamora*

British student finds . . .

From page A1

can basketball teams, and later smelling and tasting exotic-looking delicacies touted by street vendors—I felt I was in a melting pot of Spanish, American and Asian influences.

I had traveled around Southeast Asia but I found Manila to be vastly different from the region's other cities.

After two weeks of exploring the city, I moved into my modest apartment in a small barangay and started my internship at the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

I was to learn the ropes of journalism from its reporters, as well as find time to do research on the topic of international relations and terrorism, for my thesis at the University of Leeds in Great Britain.

'Let's have a drink'

By day, I was meeting scholars, politicians and bureaucrats. By night, I was learning about Filipino culture first hand—chatting with my neighbors over a bottle (or three) of Emperador brandy or Ginebra just outside their homes.

Before long, I knew most of the colorful characters in my barangay. Every time I walked its streets I would hear, "Hey Mark, *tagay ka* (let's have a drink)!"

By tagging along with the INQUIRER reporters, I was able to meet with various officials—from Malacañang to academic institutions to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

However, I felt most privileged when a friend I had made in the barangay invited me to his mother's wake.

Zest for life

Ironically enough, it was during a funeral that I experienced two memorable traits of the Filipinos—their hospitality and their ability to enjoy life in the face of adversity. I would encounter these traits time and again during my two-month stay in Manila.

A city of extremes, mediocrity has no place in Manila. Within 10 meters of a ramshackle neighborhood, one can be in the lavish surroundings of a rich enclave filled with high-end shops.

It struck me that people in Manila face daily difficulties, not only with regard to its infrastructure and chaotic streets, but also in the current political turmoil and economic uncertainties. They could well be forgiven for being pessimistic about life.

Yet, the people in Manila—at least in the barangay where I lived—carried on with optimism.

It had always amazed me that the Philippines ousted a dictator through nonviolent means—a very rare accomplishment. I often wondered what it was in its culture that made this possible. I spoke to various people about this phenomenon. The answer I got on more than one occasion was that the Filipino people would not instigate a violent uprising on behalf of a perceived "nation-state."

Hope in dark world

What would drive Filipinos to take up arms? People told me that it was love for family and friends. For me, this was the glimmer of hope in what could potentially be a dark world filled with corruption and political upheaval.

The Philippines, it could be said, is in transition. People are slowly realizing the need for reforms. The changes are brewing and they have yet to be implemented.

As I see it, the new generation of Filipinos will use their love of family and fellowmen—similar to their inherent optimism—to rid the country of corruption and ensure that the average Filipino would have a better life.

During my brief stay, I did not have the pleasure of venturing farther than Tagaytay, a one-hour drive from Manila. Thus, I can only speak about my experience of life in the city.

Only the surface

While I have tried to immerse myself in local politics and culture, I realize I had only scratched the surface. One thing for sure, the Philippines is home to the most friendly and hospitable people one is likely to meet anywhere in the world. I look forward to the day I can come back.

The writer, who is working for a BA Honors degree in International Relations at the University of Leeds, was a summer intern at the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Porn-to-go: Portable sex . . .

From page A1

video-playing iPod. One online social network of amateur pinup girls said it logged 500,000 downloads of the sexy featurettes—three- to five-minute video clips—in the first 24 hours targeting the new iPod-toting crowd.

It's a no-brainer: Pornography to go.

The naughtiness is already finding its way into video handhelds through business models tried-and-true—along with some new ones—as the adult entertainment industry works to untether video content.

Soon enough, skin flicks whose viewing had been largely restricted to the privacy of homes and theaters could be on view in the open public of parks and mass transit, for all ages to see.

Voyeur cams

Porn is no doubt big business on the Web.

Two in five Internet users visited an adult site in August, according to tracking by comScore Media Metrix. The company said 3 percent of all Web traffic and 2 percent of all surfing time involved an adult site.

The Internet accounted for $2.5 billion (P137.5 billion) of the adult industry's $14 billion (P770 billion) revenues last year, about the same as revenues from cable and satellite pay-per-view showings, according to Adult Video News, a trade magazine.

Vivid Entertainment Group, a major adult video producer that already offers high-resolution still images, video clips and footage from "voyeur cams" through its website, now plans to shoot shorter films specifically for the iPod and other portables.

"It could be a huge percentage of our business," says the company's chief executive, Steven Hirsch. "People love watching adult movies and to be able to carry an adult movie in your pocket is a powerful tool."

Sin City

Sin City, based in Chatsworth, California, already offers trailers of full-length adult films for the Sony PlayStation Portable, a handheld video game player. It now plans full-length adult films for the video iPod.

Apple wasn't first on the scene with a small digital device capable of playing good-quality video.

Creative Technology and iRiver are among companies with pocket-sized devices already on the market; they use Windows Mobile software to display video, audio and still images.

In addition, one early entrant, Archos, has a Jukebox that can store and play a whopping 400 hours of video in the MPEG-4 standard.

They're coming

Yet the very marketing and deal-making finesse that helped Apple rise to dominate the portable music market make its new video-playing iPod a likely vessel for adult movies' expansion to portable porn.

The Apple's iTunes online story already features several hot and heavy podcasts and audio downloads geared to portability. Podcasting allows one to download files or "feeds" from the Internet and listen or view the material at a later time. The feed is usually in the MP3 audio format.

The company isn't offering much in the way of sex on videos, though some of the music videos it sells for $1.99 (P109.45) each can tend toward titillation. Apple officials refused requests for interviews on whether they might offer adult content on iTunes for iPod owners.

In the wireless industry, carrier-approved content exists within something referred to as a walled garden. In the United States, at least, that garden is generally safe for children.

Once users stroll outside garden walls and inside a Web browser, however, all bets are off.

A company called Xobile sells pornographic video clips for cell phones. No special operating system or other software is necessary: Just a Web browser, which is commonplace now for phones with access to digital data networks.

Easier access by minors

That it's now easier than ever for minors to view X-rated content on portable devices concerns media watch groups that seek to protect children.

The problem is that children are often quicker to grasp the technology than their parents, says Jack Samad, a senior vice president with the National Coalition for the Protection of Children & Families.

"The arena is wide open, unfiltered, unrestricted, for adult content," Samad said. "Children are very aware of where it is and how to download it." *AP*

From Payatas to Assumption, girl finds path to bright future

From page A1

struggle to cope with the academic rigors of college life but also to break through cultural and social barriers.

"I was really in a state of culture shock," the cheery marketing major said, laughing, as she recalled her first weeks in college. "From a co-ed public high school in Payatas, I was suddenly in an exclusive, private school. I had to learn to reach out to [the other students]. It was difficult, but if I didn't make the first move to reach out, what was going to happen to me?"

Rose has clearly blossomed from a shy, unassuming girl into a self-assured and stronger young woman.

But while she had always known that she would be "called" to support her family and try to give them a better life, she never expected to be where she is now.

"If I weren't a part of the Pathways program, I would probably be in the province now, trying to make ends meet," Rose said in Taglish. "I probably wouldn't even get to finish college because I'd have to worry about books, transportation expenses and other things."

Pathways to Higher Education is an innovative education program at Ateneo de Manila University that aims to help send academically gifted but marginalized public high school students to college.

Instead of doles and scholarships, Pathways offers impoverished high school students academic enrichment classes, supplementary learning activities and learning resource centers to enable them to study well and earn scholarships to the schools and courses of their choice.

Thanks to Pathways, Rose received free tuition and dormitory assistance from Assumption College, enabling her to focus on her academics and chart her own career path.

"My dream job is to work in a company in Makati, making marketing plans and building brands. I want to pursue graduate studies later on," she said.

She seems so sure of herself and of her plans now, but only three years ago, such dreams would have been inaccessible to her.

Rose can credit her newfound confidence to her experience in college, where she continues to learn the value of knowing oneself and of reaching out to others.

"I now have some close friends who are rich, and we're not much different from each other," she said. "We each have our own problems—and, sometimes, their problems are even graver than mine. It all depends on how we look at our situation, and how we respond to challenges..."

The road to success is indeed lined with challenges, but Rose looks to the future with hopeful anticipation: "*Mahirap, siyempre* (It's tough, of course), but maybe that's why God gave all these to me..."

She paused and took a deep breath, perhaps feeling the weight of her task on her frail shoulders. And then she said, smiling: "I'm ready to take on that challenge."

(Pathways to Higher Education is helping young students like Rose chart their own courses for the future. With your help, more high school and college students will have access to new experiences and opportunities that will make them better individuals and leaders. For more information on Pathways' groundbreaking programs, call 426-6001 locals 4045 to 4049, e-mail to pathways@admu.edu.ph, or log on to www.pathwaysphilippines.org)

Pinoy firm offers grants to nurses

FILIPINO NURSES WANTING TO work abroad may avail of financial grants offered by a Filipino-owned firm to help them pay for testing fees as well as obtain jobs and settle in the host countries.

Jonathan L. Co, chief executive officer of the firm, Horizon Recruitment Pacific Corp., said 100 registered nurses with at least one year's experience in a tertiary hospital, preferably in ICU and surgery, would be chosen.

Co said HRPC, which is affiliated with Worldwide Health Staff Associates Ltd., an organization with a network of health care institutions in the United States and Canada, will be conducting interviews of nurses at its offices at Reliance House, 205 Edsa corner Rochester Street, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City, on Nov. 5-9 and at the Marriot Hotel in Cebu City on Nov. 9-10.

Co said WWHSA CEO David Pascoe, together with representatives of Augusta Care Corp., arrived in the Philippines last week for the interviews.

The financial grants would go toward expenses for the CGFNS, NCLEX, TOEFL/TSE and IELTS tests. HRPC said its assistance went all the way to helping obtain working visas, medical exams, airfare and an initial two-months accommodations in the host countries.

Benefit ball for museum

THE FRIENDS FOR Cultural Concerns of the Philippines is holding its annual ball at the NBC Tent, Global City, on Nov. 8 to benefit the FCCP Room at the National Museum.

Spearheading the charity drive are honorary consul for Guatemala Melly Ablaza, honorary consul for Angola Helen Ong and FCCP annual ball director Nene Leonor.

The FCCP Room will house a permanent pictorial exhibit of the history of the National Museum.

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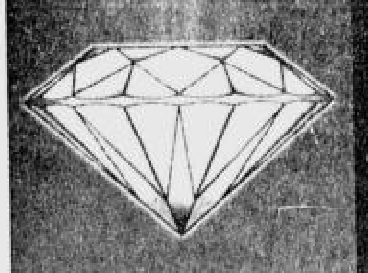

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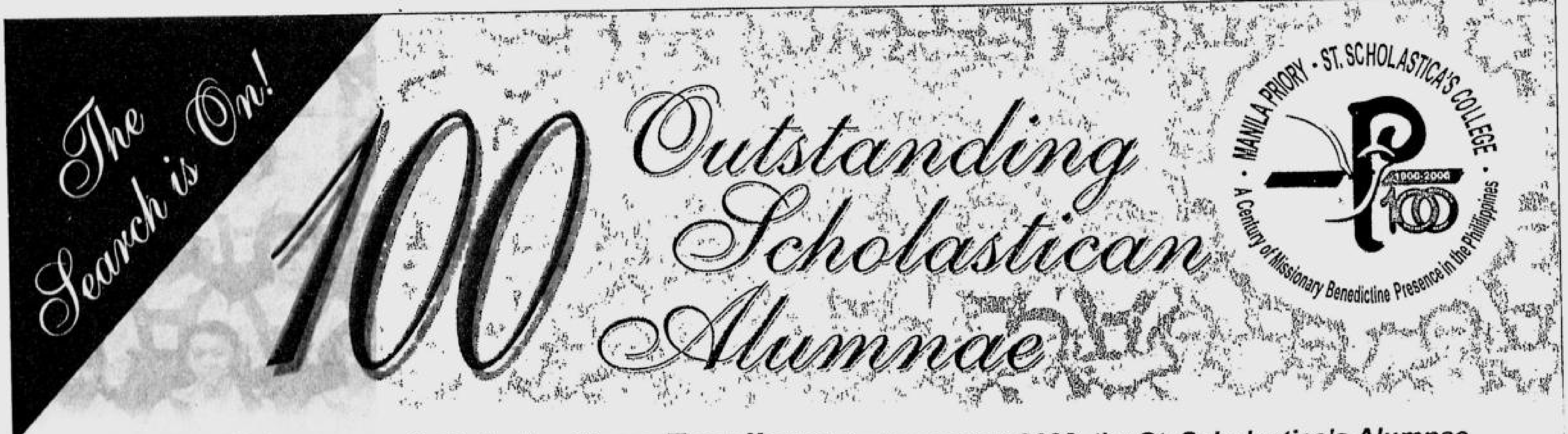
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"That in all Things God may be Glorified"

Holidays said to reap P300M

THE ALL SAINTS' DAY AND EID'L FITR HOLIDAYS were a bonanza for local tourism, bringing in an estimated P300 million in tourist receipts as Filipinos, taking advantage of the two successive long weekends, flocked to various tourist spots around the country, Philippine Tourism Authority general manager Robert Dean Barbers said yesterday.

Barbers said in a statement that this was "a very good sign" because the upswing in local tourism was complementing the rising number of foreign tourists visiting the Philippines.

Prime tourist destinations such as Boracay, Puerto Galera in Mindoro Oriental, Cebu, Bohol and nearby places like Tagaytay City, Subic, Clark and the Ilocos region were crowded with local vacationers, Barbers said citing reports from PTA facilities in those places.

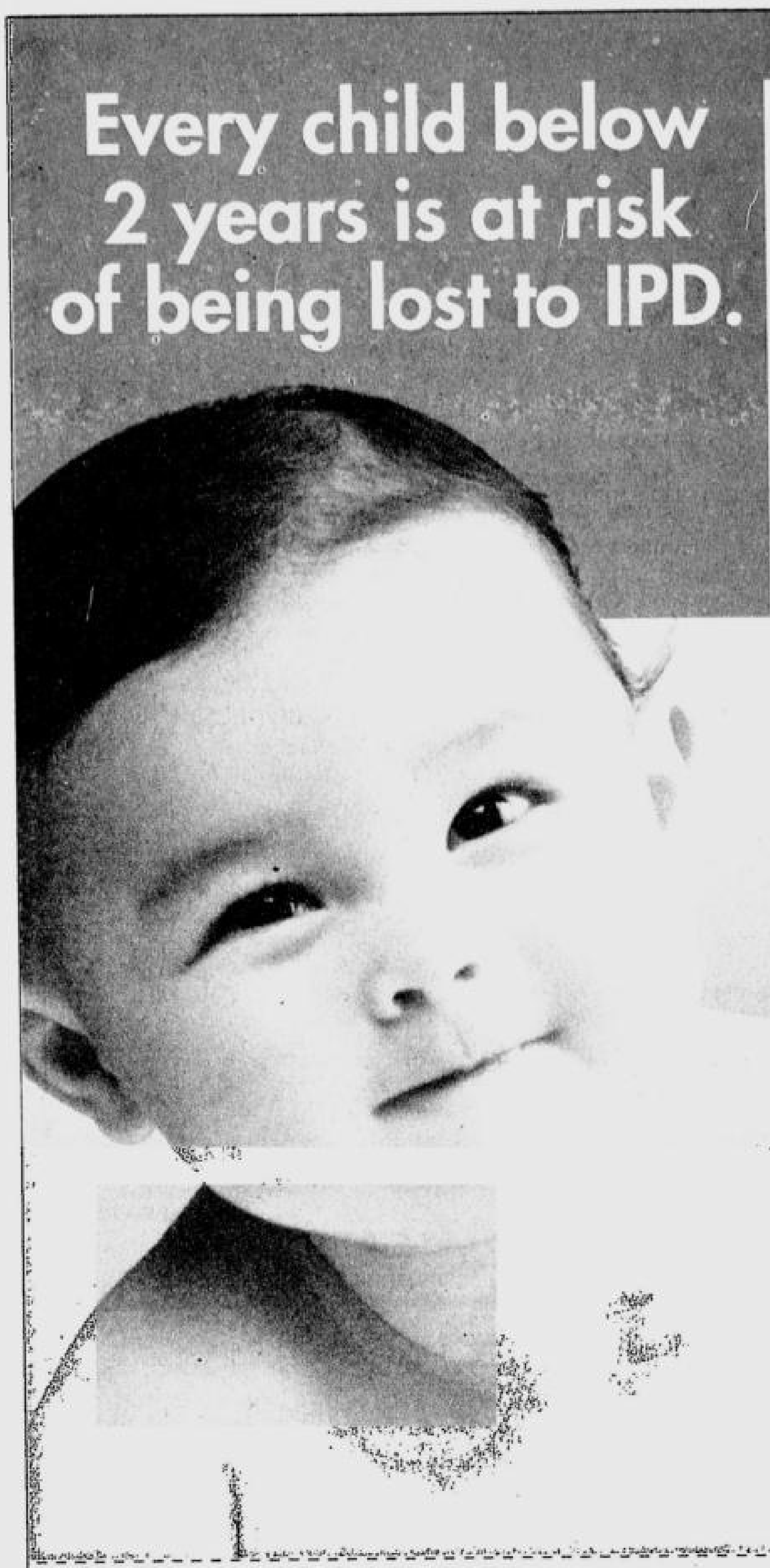
He attributed the increase in domestic tourism to the President's "holiday economics program," which, among other things, links certain holidays to weekends to provide students and office workers more time for travel and relaxation. Barbers said the program has generated substantial increases in tourism revenues since it was implemented in 2003.

In 2002, Barbers said, tourism revenues generated on All Saints' Day amounted to P125 million. The earnings doubled in 2003, during the program's first year, he said.

This year, PTA estimates P300 million in revenues due to the two recent long holiday weekends.

Barbers said the PTA, which has adopted the slogan "Pilipino sa Turismo ay Aktibo," has been aggressively marketing its tourist facilities to entice average Filipinos to take advantage of their comparatively lower costs than high-end resorts patronized by the rich.

Jerome Aning



Every child below 2 years is at risk of being lost to IPD.

Wyeth

Based on a study conducted here in the Philippines, 78% of those afflicted with Invasive Pneumococcal Disease or IPD are 2 years old or younger. 1 out of 3 of the children studied died. The traitor disease may kill children within 48 hours without warning.

The symptoms are non-specific that you may think it is plain cough and cold accompanied by fever. IPD can come in the form of bacteremia, meningitis, bacteremic pneumonia and sepsis. If not given extra attention, your baby may die.

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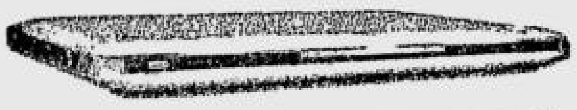

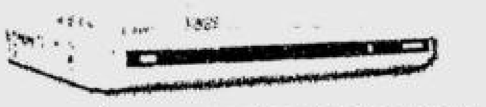

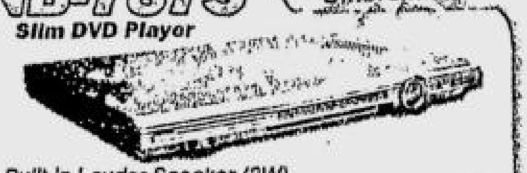

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Anti-Bush rally at summit turns violent

MAR DEL PLATA, ARGENTINA—US PRESIDENT George W. Bush braced Saturday for the second day of the 34-nation Summit of the Americas here, buffeted by anti-US protests and dogged resistance to his bid for pan-American free trade.

Riot police fired tear gas Friday as demonstrators threw Molotov cocktails, lit bonfires and smashed shop windows some 600 m from the plush hotel where leaders were meeting in this Atlantic resort city.

Hundreds of protesters in ski-masks confronted police after a larger group of some 40,000 rallied peacefully at a football stadium to voice their anger at Bush's foreign and economic policies.

The US leader, faced with record low popularity at home as well as abroad, acknowledged the tensions after meeting with Argentine President Nestor Kirchner.

"It's not easy to host all these countries. It's particularly not easy to host, perhaps, me," allowed Bush, whose motorcade whisked past the protests.

Federal police said 64 people were arrested in the clashes, in which a bank and nearby shops were torched. By late Friday, street violence had subsided and a security source said the situation was "under control."

However, this was not before about 30 attackers tore up sidewalks and hurled the concrete through the windows of the BankBoston branch. A branch of British-based HSBC also was targeted and an office of local Banco Galicia was set ablaze under a barrage of Molotov cocktails.

McDonald's and Burger King fast-food restaurants also had their windows smashed.

In protests elsewhere in Argentina, police in the southern city of Neuquen fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse demonstrators who threw eggs and stones at a Blockbuster video store, part of a US-owned chain.

In Buenos Aires, protesters covered the Obelisk, the capital's central monument, with a banner declaring "Bush Get Out." Demonstrators burned a US flag nearby.

"He is getting what he has coming," Cuban Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque said of Bush in Santa Clara, Cuba. "He is the most unpopular US president, in the international arena, in history." Communist Cuba was not invited to the summit.

Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin said he was "dismayed and deeply troubled by the violence ... We in Canada believe in the free and frank exchange of ideas; peaceful demonstration is a part of this. We cannot allow the integrity of the peaceful exchange of ideas to be demeaned by the deplorable and reckless acts of a few."

Long gone are the United States' Latin American neighbors' Cold War-era cooperation and deference; many elected governments since have moved to the left, including in key nations Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Venezuela. *AFP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Paris unrest spreads

AUBERVILLIERS, France—Bands of youths torched more than 750 cars and burned warehouses and a nursery school in a ninth night of violence that spread from the restive Paris suburbs to towns around France, police said Saturday. Authorities appealed for calm in the face of an unprecedented streak of urban unrest in France. Troublemakers fired bullets into a vandalized bus, set a warehouse ablaze and burned 44 cars in a lot in Suresnes, just west of Paris. In a particularly malevolent turn, rioters stoned rescuers aiding someone who had fallen ill and torched the ambulance, police said. Incidents, mainly fires, were reported in the northern city of Lille, in Toulouse, in the southwest, Rouen, in the west and elsewhere on the second night of unrest in areas beyond metropolitan Paris. An incendiary device was tossed at the wall of a synagogue in Pierrefitte, northwest of Paris, where electricity went out after a burning car damaged an electrical pole. *AP*

Bird flu death in Indonesia

JAKARTA—Indonesia on Saturday confirmed its fifth death from bird flu after tests by the World Health Organization (WHO), a hospital spokesperson said. Ilham Patu, a spokesperson for the Sulianti Saroso hospital for infectious diseases, confirmed the death as well as another case about which he could not reveal any details. Both were confirmed by the WHO, Patu said. *AFP*

Longest silence for Osama

WASHINGTON—Osama bin Laden has been publicly silent for the longest period since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The question for US intelligence: What, if anything, does it mean? The terror leader with the $25 million bounty on his head issued two audio statements in December, the last known public word. He was last seen in a videotaped message to Americans on Oct. 29, 2004, saying the United States could avoid another Sept. 11 attack if it stopped threatening the security of Muslims. Since the 9/11 attacks, the longest Bin Laden had gone without issuing a new audio or video public statement was just over nine months. He's now let 10 months pass, and counting. *AP*

JPII beatification hearing

POPE John Paul II

KRAKOW, Poland—A tribunal hearing testimony whether the late Pope John Paul II should be beatified opened Friday in the Polish city of Krakow, where the late pontiff spent most of his life. Members of the investigative tribunal were sworn in at a Mass in Wawel Cathedral where John Paul was ordained in 1946. The Mass was celebrated by the late pope's private secretary, Stanslaw Dziwisz, now the archbishop of Krakow. Dziwisz praised the piety of the Polish pontiff who was "always on his knees before God" and whose "life was a prayer." The court's first session Friday afternoon was to include a meeting with the postulator, the official in charge of promoting the beatification, Polish priest the Reverend Slawomir Oder. "The beatification process has entered a dynamic phase," said Reverend Robert Necek, spokesperson for the Krakow diocese. *AFP*

Petronas Twin Towers fire

KUALA LUMPUR—Malaysia Saturday ruled out arson as the cause of a fire in a shopping mall at the capital's famed Petronas Twin Towers that forced the evacuation of hundreds of people from a cinema complex there. The fire broke out around midnight on Friday in a stairwell near a restaurant in the Suria mall, a popular tourist spot filled with high-end boutiques and a cinema multiplex. Choking smoke drifted into auditoriums two floors above, terrifying hundreds of moviegoers who were catching late night screenings. "It's not arson, definitely not arson," said fire squad superintendent Zul Fahmi Sutaji. *AFP*

46 dead in Ethiopia unrest

ADDIS ABABA—At least four people were killed and 11 wounded in Ethiopia on Friday, taking the death toll to 46 after a fourth day of clashes between security forces and demonstrators protesting alleged electoral fraud, police said. The four died in the town of Bahir Dar, about 400 km northwest of the capital Addis Ababa, where police clashed with demonstrators demanding the release of opposition members in police custody, said the state-run Ethiopian News Agency, quoting police sources. In addition to Bahir Dar, there was violence in the Ethiopian towns of Awasa, Gondar, Dessie and Dire Dawa, the government said, but police did not say whether there were fatalities in the other towns. According to a diplomat, eight people including a soldier were killed in Bahir Dar. Two other diplomats said two civilians were killed in Dessie, a scene of similar rioting. The government blame the violence on the opposition Coalition [illegible] Unity and Democracy, which has become [illegible] in its claims that elections held on May [illegible] by the ruling Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary Democratic Front coalition headed by Prime Minister Meles Zenawi. *AFP*

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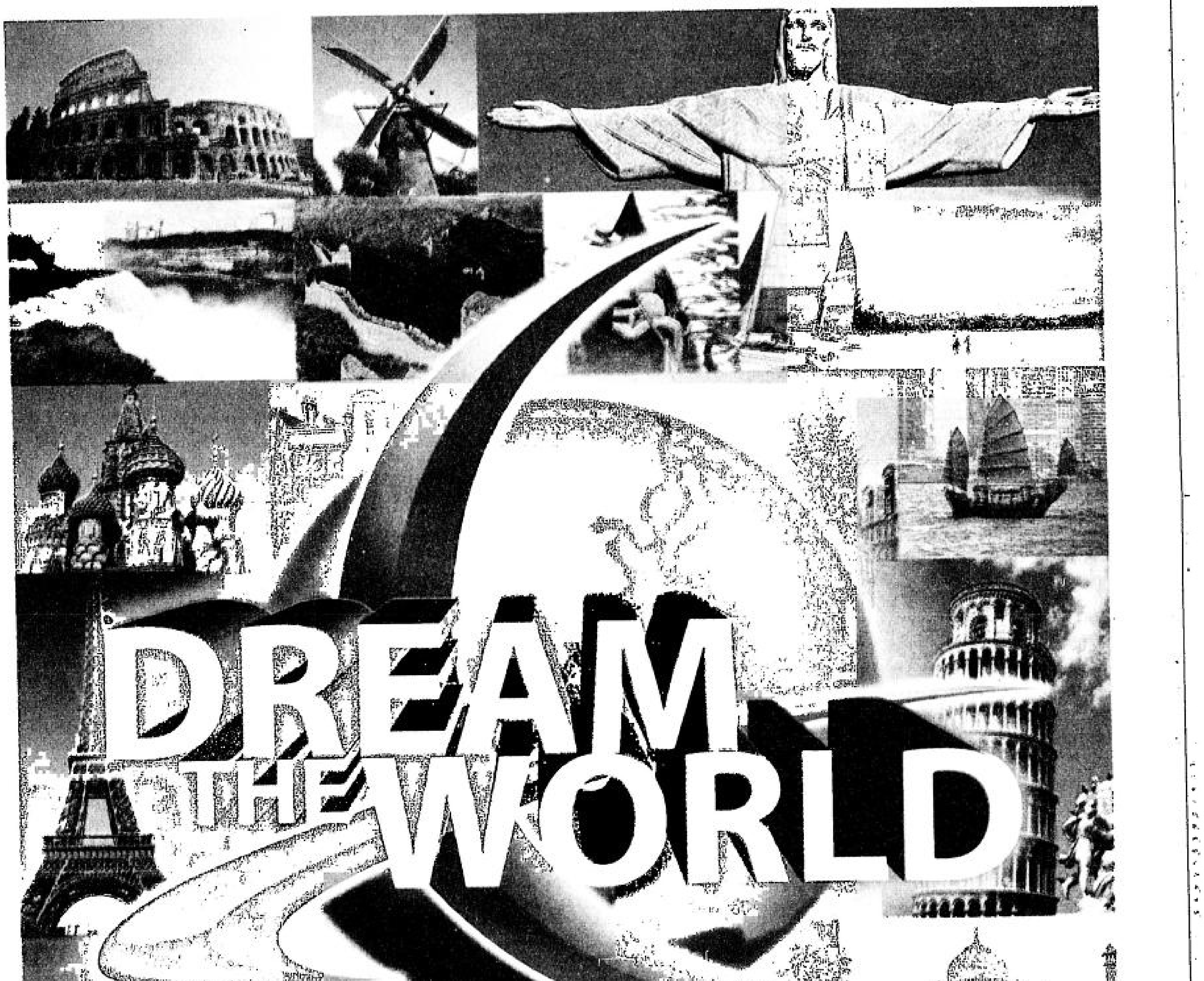

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OPINION

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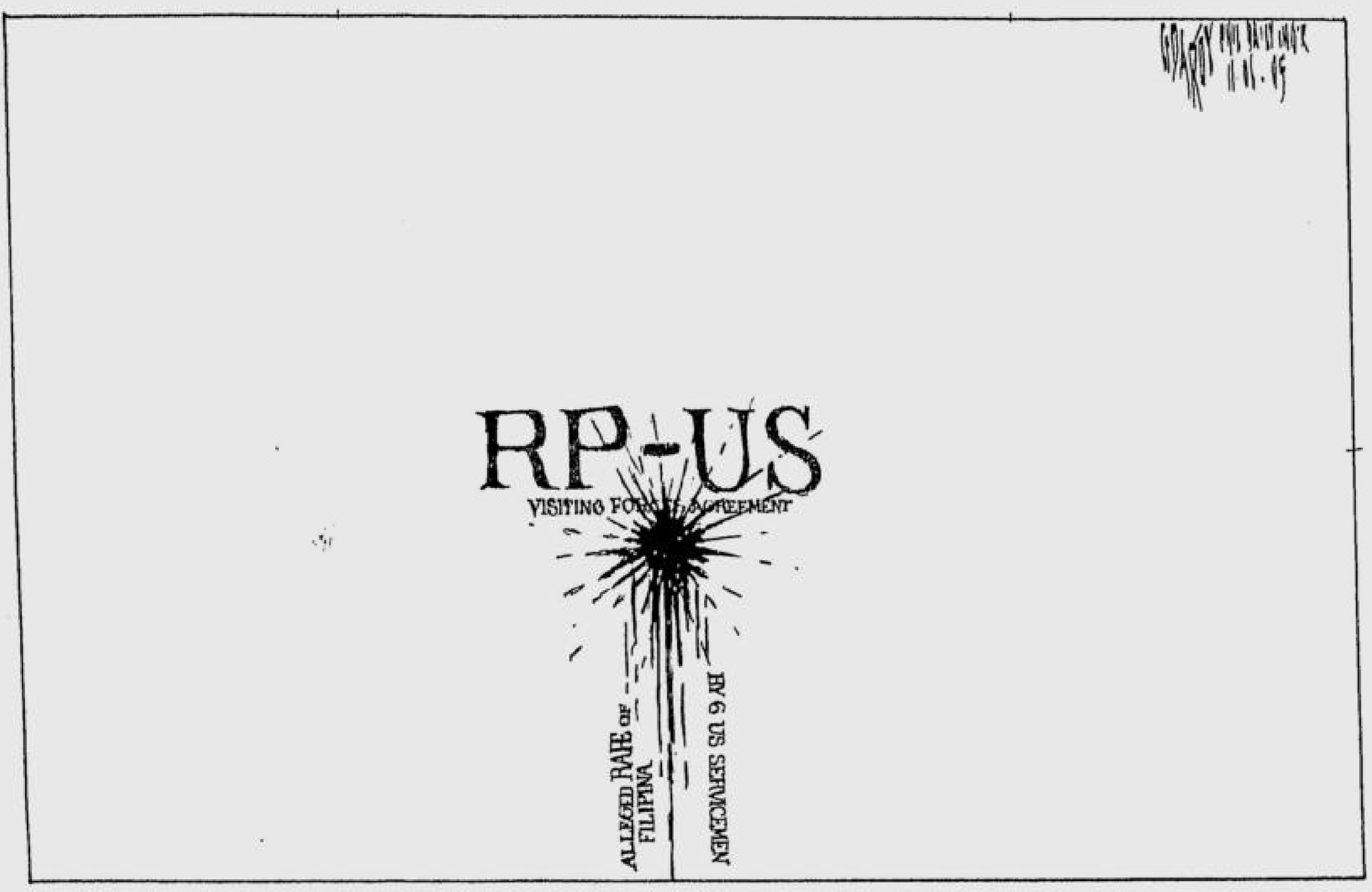


An outrage

EDITORIALS

THE ALLEGED RAPE OF A VACATIONING COLLEGE graduate from Zamboanga inside the Subic Bay Freeport during the holidays last week has provoked great public outrage and greater public interest. In part, that is because the young lady was said to be the victim of a group rape, inside a rented van and, in part, because the alleged rapists were US servicemen.

A rape, whether it is committed by a foreigner or a countryman, is one of the most terrible of crimes. But what allegedly happened in the late hours of Nov. 1 and the early hours of Nov. 2 cannot be dissociated from the identity of the alleged rapists. A rape is not only a crime against a person; it is also a crime of power, of unequal relations between victim and victimizer. The fact that the alleged rapists are American soldiers, running wild inside a former American naval base, makes their Americanness, in the context of our country's own history, an inescapable reality.

The trauma the young lady is going through at the moment is unbearably personal. But part of the public fascination with the case is the role Americans—former colonizers, once and future allies in the war on terrorism, current lone superpower—allegedly play in it. That is something the US Embassy, or indeed even Malacañang, cannot wish away.

To be sure, both the administration and the US authorities have thus far handled the matter in a praiseworthy manner.

The five American marines implicated in the crime have been detained; they were not allowed to leave with their warship last Thursday, and they remain in the custody of the US Embassy.

Malacañang has refused to lose its head on the issue. "This is a matter that is very well covered by the provisions of the [Visiting Forces Agreement], and we are letting the Department of Foreign Affairs handle this," Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita told reporters, reassuringly.

And the Department of Justice is studying the legal options open before it, including possibly submitting a request, under VFA provisions, for "transfer of jurisdiction."

The Olongapo city prosecutor's office has also taken an encouragingly active stance, even while acknowledging that because the VFA is in effect, the nature of the work facing the government has fundamentally changed: It has become a diplomatic rather than a criminal issue.

That said, we must belabor the obvious: The government must pursue the ends of justice regardless of the diplomatic or political costs (or indeed, regardless of whether the alleged victim testifies or not). As Sen. Rodolfo Biazon noted, remarking on the task of the presidential oversight committee and the legislative oversight committee on the VFA, it is the government's responsibility to make sure that the Philippines is not "unnecessarily" taken advantage of.

Perhaps, all he meant was that we should not be disadvantaged. There are reasons for thinking that a US hard line or a weak Palace position may lead to unhappy results. The first US Embassy statement on the issue missed the point entirely, saying visiting American soldiers are always under orders to observe "cultural sensitivity, proper behavior and respect for the law of the communities" being visited. This makes the alleged rape rather like a violation of a quaint local taboo; the last time we checked, rape is a universal crime. Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez also has made discouraging noises, talking aloud when he should let the DFA do the talking.

Justice must be served; that is non-negotiable. If we will not stand up for one of our own, no ally would.

Another one

ON THE FRONT PAGE YESTERDAY, BRAD Tiffany, "an American from New York staying in Manila," is shown arguing with members of a feminist group who staged a lightning rally in front of the US Embassy to condemn the alleged rape.

"She's a prostitute asking US servicemen for money," Tiffany argued. A foolhardy argument, and also a specious, morally bankrupt one. It assumes that the victim of the alleged group rape by American Marines last week was a sex worker (she wasn't). It assumes that sex workers cannot be raped (of course, they can, if the sex act is forced or done without their consent). Worst of all, it assumes that money excuses everything, even rape. (It doesn't.)

How are our taxes spent?

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I HAVE NOT YET READ THE SUPREME COURT decision sustaining the E-VAT law, but I imagine it is based on the principle that the legislature has wide discretion in determining when the power of taxation should be exercised as one of the inherent attributes of the State. That discretion determines the reason for imposing the tax, whom or what to tax, when and how to tax, and the amount of the tax to be collected.

I suppose the Supreme Court has decided, correctly or not, that such discretion has not been gravely abused by Congress, which should be upheld for passing the bill, together with President Macapagal-Arroyo who proposed the measure in the first place and later signed it into law. The acceptance of the E-VAT law by the Judiciary has made it the joint act of the three major branches of the government and is therefore binding on the whole nation.

The law became effective on Nov. 1, when the living remembered the dead. Some angry critics are saying, without meaning any levity, that the living may soon be dead too under the harsh provisions of the statute. The rigor of the E-VAT may cause rigor mortis for many enterprises and further deepen the material difficulties of our country. Not only the affluent will be adversely affected; even ordinary families will also suffer.

Unemployment, already mortally alarming now, will become even more serious under the new law. Commercial companies unable to pay the added taxes will fold up, leaving their distressed employees in a desperate lurch. It is the small businesses that will be severely injured when they are the ones that should be especially protected. It is deceitful to say that only the rich will be burdened; the small people will be exempt. When the provider is taxed, it will shift the tax to the provided, which will be the ultimate victim. That is how clever businesses survive.

Housewives will try to bear if they can the rising cost of daily necessities, like food and medicines. Ordinary workers will spend more for public transportation and those with cars for gas and oil. Tuition fees will unavoidably increase, forcing thousands to stop formal schooling. Electricity and other conveniences will become unaffordable except to the really wealthy. Even the common luxuries the poor are accustomed to, like the movies and lotto, will decline under the E-VAT law.

The government says all of us should be prepared to make sacrifices for the common good. The enormity of our foreign debt is unbelievable for a small country like ours. The general appropriations law provides for the disbursement of billions of still unavailable pesos. The improvement of social services like education and health and land reform is at a standstill allegedly for lack of funds. Hundreds of thousands of our people are fleeing to foreign shores where they will at least not starve.

Assuming that the E-VAT law is legal as the Supreme Court affirms, I for one will abide by its provisions. I have no option to reject it, of course, but I will comply with it only reluctantly and with reservations. My reason is, I am sure, shared by millions of our taxpayers who are forced to underwrite the activities of the government that no longer enjoys their confidence. Our apprehension is that the taxes we will be required to pay will not be used for legitimate purposes but for the caprices and stupidities and greed of our high public officials.

A typical example of improvident and useless official expenditure is the grant of P10 million for the Constitutional Consultative Commission created by President Arroyo (not by Congress) supposedly to study the revision of the present Constitution, but actually to sell the idea of replacing the present government with a parliamentary system. Last week, it "consulted" the people at the swank Waterfront Hotel in Cebu, where according to my colleague Neal Cruz, the members spent much tax revenues on luxurious food and lodging. They are traveling all over the country in extravagant style when whatever their "findings" may be are likely to be ignored by the constitutional body that will amend or revise the Constitution.

This is only one illustration of how the expanded value-added tax we will be paying will be squandered by the present government. Only last month, there was a shocking report of the members of the committee on tourism in the House of Representatives traveling to Russia (some with their spouses) supposedly to learn how to attract Russians to visit our country. During the recent congressional recess, no less than 66 representatives from the same chamber went on the customary junkets abroad at public expense. Three years ago, I wrote of Commission on Elections buying seven luxury cars for the total cost of P8.5 million in addition to the two other official cars already enjoyed by each of its members. Of course, we have also heard of the hundreds of millions of pesos spent by Malacañang during the elections last year although this rumor has been denied.

The E-VAT law will subsidize all such believable rumors, with us footing the bill.

Just passing by

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY IS TOLD ABOUT A LITTLE GIRL who observed her grandmother going to church often. When she asked the grandma about it, the latter's reply was: "My child, I am cramming now for my final exams."

* * *

In today's Gospel (Mt. 25, 1-13) the Lord's message is clear: "Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." Death comes when we least expect it, "like a thief in the night," so we should always be ready. Final exams? Don't count on it. It may come as a surprise quiz!

* * *

As we know neither the time nor the hour when God will call us, let us always find time at different moments of the day to say to the Lord: "Lord, I love you, Lord, I'm sorry for my sins, Lord, help me, Lord, I trust in your mercy, and I hope to see you in heaven someday. Amen."

* * *

These past days, there was a lot of time to reflect on the meaning of life and death. All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day should remind us that we are just tenants in this world, and that we are all just passing by. What matters most in the end is not the wealth we carry with us, or the positions we occupy, or the opinions and insights we hold on to, or the problems and hurts that burdened us. What matters most in the end is the love we carry in our hearts and share with others during our lifetime, along with our wealth and positions; the faith we hold on to, along with our opinions and insights; and the hope that lift us up when we are burdened with our problems and hurts. Faith, hope and love. Without these, everything is empty and vain. Do you have these? Do you have enough of these in your life?

* * *

Someone once told me an anecdote about a child who asked God: "Lord, you know and understand everything. Is there anything you don't understand?"

And the Lord said: "My child, whenever I look at the world, I don't understand why people rush their childhood to become adults, and then long to be children again; I don't understand why people go for wealth and forget their health when they are old; I don't understand why people live in the past or in the future, and live half-heartedly in the present; and I don't understand why people live as if they never will die, and they die as if they never have lived."

If only we listen hard enough, we will hear God's voice to guide and enlighten us. The problem is that we do not listen at all. This attitude to ignore God's voice is so prevalent in our lives these days. Why is there a void in your life? Maybe, it is because you avoid silence, avoid solitude and avoid God. Because you are so focused on money, power, sex, status, health, and your own miseries and grievances.

* * *

It is so easy to lose our balance and peace with all the events happening around us and with all sorts of people who pressure or annoy us. The best thing to do when such circumstances arise is to listen not so much to our thoughts and feelings inside, but to concentrate on the will of God. Try this prayer: "Lord, what is your will in what is happening right now? Help me to know your will, and may your will be done. Amen."

It is a simple prayer that opens a door and leaves a space for God at any given moment or time, and when God comes in, all the darkness goes out. Try it. In God's will is true peace. Stay with the divine will. Stay in peace.

* * *

Come join the 18th Eucharistic Congress on Nov. 28, 2005, Monday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Adoration Convent (Pink Sisters), 71 Hemady St., Quezon City. This year's theme is "The Eucharist: A Gift To The Church Always To Be Rediscovered." Lunch and snacks will be provided, sponsored by the Eucharistic League of Adorers. This year's speakers are Fr. Poly Ty, SSS, Fr. Manoling Francisco, SJ, and Bishop Sofronio Bancud, SSS, DD.

* * *

Inviting you all to a pre-advent recollection by Bishop Ted Bacani at the Good Shepherd Convent, Aurora Blvd., Quezon City on Nov. 12, Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This year's theme is "The transforming power of the Holy Eucharist in my life." For more information, please call Ms Sonny Sison 7231516 or Ms Ching Daclan 4266245.

* * *

Fr. Ed Guarin, SVD sent me this text message which is really worth pondering upon: "Strange how people can be so pre-occupied with a life they can't hold on to, and neglect an eternity they can't run away from." Yes, time is passing. Eternity is waiting. Who are you? What are you doing? Where are you going?

* * *

Thank you to all who shared the road and the load in my 25 years in the priesthood. God bless you. Mama Mary loves you! *Maraming salamat po!*

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, remind me, that what matters most in the end is the love I carried in my heart, and the love I have shared in my life. Amen.

Faces of America

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

PERHAPS, THE LOVELIEST TIME OF THE YEAR to visit the United States would be autumn, the season comprising the months of September, October and November. And one of the best places to really appreciate this particular period would be at an arboretum, a place which collects and cares for trees just as a museum houses and displays objects of lasting interest or value. But even by just driving through the countryside, one can enjoy a visual feast as the leaves on the trees change their colors from green to gold, yellow, orange, or deep red, completely replacing an otherwise drab landscape with a riot of colors worthy of a painting by the masters.

These lines from Joyce Kilmer instantly come to mind: "I think that I shall never see/ A poem lovely as a tree…Poems are made by fools like me/ But only God can make a tree."

One of the more famous of these tree museums is the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois, established by the founders of the Morton Salt Company. The family motto was "Plant Trees" and today, the Arboretum is a major scientific and cultural institution in the country. One of the oldest of thousands of species of trees in the Arboretum is a 200-year-old gingko tree, whose benefits have been recognized in the field of alternative medicine. If we are to save and protect our environment, we need to encourage the planting and caring of trees.

In our neighborhood in New Manila is a 70-year-old champaca tree, which has withstood the onslaught of many devastating typhoons.

* * *

Of course, the greatest place in America today is Chicago, the Windy City. It is an exhilarating time for a metropolis that has waited 88 long years to emerge as world baseball champions. Last week, the team arrived from Houston and was greeted by a ticker tape parade along LaSalle Street—a spectacle which doesn't take place too often. For those not too familiar with the baseball scene in Chicago, the city has actually two major league teams: the Cubs on the North Side and the White Sox on the South Side. These days, however, the distinction gets blurred as the whole city is alive and full of pride and excitement over the achievement of a team that originally was not considered a pennant contender.

Perhaps, what was most significant about the White Sox victory was that it was truly a team effort. There were no superstars similar to the New York Yankees, and the team payroll was one of the lowest in the major leagues. Each member contributed his share to winning games, and no one individual was considered indispensable to the team.

Our country could learn from the White Sox. We don't need superstars. We shall only succeed if we help each other, doing our share of the work no matter how humble or seemingly insignificant it may be. As Alex Lacson pointed out a few months ago, it's the small things that count—following traffic regulations, paying our taxes religiously, and protecting the environment by not throwing trash just anywhere. The White Sox played small ball; no power hitters.

* * *

Known as the "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement," Rosa Parks was a 42-year-old black seamstress from Montgomery, Alabama on Dec. 1, 1955, when she shocked an entire nation after she decided not to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. Parks was arrested and fined $10 plus court costs. In less than a year, the United States Supreme Court banned racial segregation in all public facilities.

Her simple act of disobedience led to the dismantling of segregation laws in the United States and abolished forever the patterns of discrimination suffered by fellow African-Americans. Without firing a shot or raising her arms in anger against anyone, she changed the world in which she lived. It is hard to believe that barely 50 years ago, African-Americans in the South could not sit in the front section of a bus or expect to be served at a restaurant like other folks.

Rosa Parks died at the age of 92. Her remains lay in state at the Capitol Rotunda in Washington, D.C., the first woman to be so honored by the US Congress. When she was buried in Detroit last week, flags were flown at half-mast in all government offices. As I mentioned earlier, we don't need superstars to bring about change.

* * *

Scandals involving US presidents or their administrations have long been a part of American history. During the term of Warren Harding, his interior secretary, Albert Fall, was convicted of taking kickbacks and bribes from oilmen friends in return for leases to sell oil from the Navy's Teapot Dome reserves. Some 30 Nixon administration officials, including Attorney General John Mitchell and White House aides H.R. "Bob" Haldeman and John D. Erlichman were convicted of crimes in connection with the Watergate scandal.

Last week, I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby, the chief of staff of Vice President Dick Cheney, was charged in a case which involved leaking the name of an undercover CIA operative. Federal prosecutor, Patrick Fitzgerald, who has long been known for his unrelenting drive against those who violate the law, explained his indictment of Libby: "The truth is the engine of our judicial system. If you compromise that truth, the whole process is lost."

So far, the only powerful and influential personalities who have been brought to justice in our system have been those charged with rape or murder. No high-level government official charged with graft and corruption has been sent to prison. In a press conference announcing Libby's indictment, Fitzgerald said, "When a vice president's chief of staff is charged with perjury and obstruction of justice, it shows the world that this is a country that takes its law seriously."

When, oh, when are we going to take our laws seriously?

The 'bad old days' again

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN AND, ON THE political front, it seems we're back to the days of anti-US protests, the focus back again on the presence of American troops in the country even though Clark and Subic are no longer under American control.

The allegations of rape raised against five (according to the US Embassy) American servicemen, who were here on anti-terrorism exercises, have understandably drawn fire from various sectors. Expectedly, the Visiting Forces Agreement, which was approved only after heated debates, protests and a contentious Senate vote, has come under renewed scrutiny.

The central question in the present controversy is not whether the servicemen are guilty of the crime they're accused of, but whether they will ever be made to face the music. All too fresh are memories of the way US servicemen who had been accused of crimes in the "bad old days" of Clark and Subic were protected by their superiors, who would spirit them away even before Philippine authorities could investigate the charges. Will the accused in the Subic rape case be haled before the local police and be made to face a Philippine judge? Or will they be able to escape Philippine justice just like those before them?

One side issue, however, needs clarifying before it succeeds in derailing any rational discussion of the case. And that is the allegation that the accuser is a sex worker. Authorities in Subic insist that the woman was just visiting from Zamboanga with her stepsister, who had a serviceman-boyfriend.

What's puzzling is why the accuser's occupation should matter at this time. Even if, for the sake of argument, she should be shown to be a sex worker, would that mitigate the crime alleged against the servicemen? Are we back to the old argument that a prostitute could not ever be raped?

I wonder if the possibility of the victim's being a sex worker would even have been raised if the incident had taken place in, say, Europe or the US mainland. Even in, say, Japan or Korea, which still play host to US military bases, Americans would think twice before bringing up a rape victim's possible occupation, as if it had any relevance to the existence of a crime.

* * *

JUST a clarification on yesterday's column on the case of Julius Babao, who has been accused of "coddling" an accused terrorist, Dawud Santos. Babao supposedly helped raise bail for Santos last April, and then spirited him away in a van belonging to ABS-CBN, Babao's home network.

In yesterday's column, I said that Babao first met Dawud two years ago after Dawud was arrested on charges of terrorism. It turned out that Dawud had not yet been arrested at that time, though his name was mentioned by the military as part of a "terrorist" organization, the Raja Solaiman Movement.

Even then, even before formal charges were brought up against him, Dawud was reportedly running scared, fearful for his safety, which was why he sought the help of the media to protect him from arrest and, possibly, torture.

One point I failed to raise in the previous column was how media people, especially public figures like Babao, are particularly vulnerable to charges of "coddling" their subjects, especially those who get in conflict with the law. Media people are approached all the time by people in need, seeking assistance and even advice. If a media person intervenes or provides succor, is he or she immediately guilty of violating the principle of objectivity?

If so, then we should issue an immediate notice to our readers and audience that we are here merely to report on their problems and that ethical considerations prevent us from raising a finger to help them.

* * *

ALUMNI of San Carlos Seminary of the Archdiocese of Manila are invited to participate in its 73rd homecoming that starts tomorrow, Nov. 7 at the seminary compound on Edsa. Some 250 priests, bishops and lay alumni, led by Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, Archbishop of Cebu, are expected to attend the festivities.

Baguio Bishop Carlito Cenzon will be the main celebrant at the homecoming's opening Mass with Vespers on Nov. 7, which is dedicated to all departed alumni.

Theme of this year's get-together is "Karlista: Pastol na Kalakbay ng Sambayanan ng Diyos (Karlista: The Shepherd Who Journeys with the People of God)." The alumni will also hold a "Kapihan sa Seminaryo," an informal discussion of current national and Church issues, with UP economics professor Winnie Monsod as resource speaker.

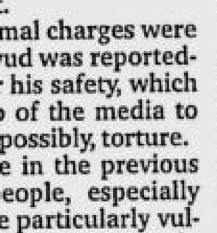
Recognition will also be given to outstanding alumni: Msgr. Ernesto Esperidion for his service in the Prison Ministry; and, posthumously, Msgr. Justino Ortiz for his work in the Archdiocesan Curia and parochial schools; and Msgr. Alfredo Sta. Ana for his vital contribution to the social action ministry and the Basic Ecclesial Communities.

The homecoming will also pay a special tribute to Jaime L. Cardinal Sin who contributed immensely to the growth of the seminary during his tenure of almost 30 years as Archbishop of Manila. Current Manila Archbishop Gaudencio B. Rosales served as San Carlos Seminary rector in the early 1980s.

San Carlos Seminary has produced a number of bishops, including Lipa Archbishop Ramon Arguelles, Antipolo Bishop Gabriel Reyes, Novaliches Bishop Antonio Tobias, Caloocan Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez, Pasig Bishop Francisco San Diego, Puerto Princesa Bishop Pedro Arigo, Iba Bishop Florentino Lavarias, Infanta Bishop Rolando Tirona, Balanga Bishop Soc Villegas and Manila Auxiliary Bishop Bernardino Cortez. Four other bishop-alumni are retired.

For more information on the alumni homecoming, please call seminarian Jeff Manlapig at 8958855.

Overcoming a heritage of mimicry



PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

IN THE SMALL TOWN OF BETIS IN PAMPANGA, where I come from, furniture-makers invented the paradox of the "modern antique." Gifted artisans are put to work to produce flamboyant Louis XIV replicas that the new-rich buy to adorn their stuffy living rooms. Over the years, many small shops that make such furniture have migrated to Manila, where they can be closer to their bourgeois buyers. But something redemptive is happening on the cultural home front.

The scarcity of good wood has forced our craftsmen to work with a combination of metal and wood, or metal and rattan. In recent years, they have turned out winning pieces of furniture. Others are discovering the beauty of hard recycled wood, and they are creating exquisite tables, benches and chairs from old lumber that in the past would have been used for firewood. We have used such aged lumber extensively to rebuild my parents' house in Betis, which has become a little showcase of what local carpenters can do when allowed to work from their own vernacular imagination rather than from the glossy pages of "House Beautiful."

The other day, I chanced upon a unique bench in our garden. It had been cut from the belly of a discarded *banca*. The rotted part was taken out and replaced with rattan weaving. Artfully stained, it made for a stunning piece of sculpture and carpentry. It also echoed the culture of the fishing villages that constitute old Pampanga. I sat on it and felt at home. By such little things are we instantly reconnected to our past and to the communities from which we are sprung.

We Filipinos love to recall those years when our country was only second to Japan in economic progress. We look around us and we observe with envy how almost all our neighbors are outstripping us. This is our self-lacerating way of noting how badly we have been served by our present leaders.

Maybe, the quality of our past politicians was better. But even so, it is wrong to believe that our past development was ever anything near that of Japan's. Japan copied Western technology while consciously preserving and enriching its own indigenous culture. In contrast, what we created was a colonial economy tied to the coattails of American economic development. It had no life of its own. It gave birth to an imitative consumerist culture ahead of its ability to sustain it in any meaningful way.

I suspect that we were the envy of Asia not because we were creating a strong economy, but because, being the fair-haired boy of a dynamic America, we were exhibiting all the trappings of Western modernity to which many new nations aspired. In the post-World War II era, says anthropologist Clifford Geertz, the former colonies that won their independence were faced with a crucial problem.

"Now that there is a local state rather than a mere dream of one, the task of nationalist ideologizing radically changes. It no longer consists in stimulating popular alienation from a foreign-dominated political order, nor with orchestrating a mass celebration of that order's demise." Instead, writes Geertz, the national debate focuses on "two rather towering abstractions: 'The Indigenous Way of Life' and 'The Spirit of the Age.'

"To stress the first of these is to look to local mores, established institutions, and the unities of common experience—to 'tradition,' 'culture,' 'national character,' or even 'race'—for the roots of a new identity. To stress the second is to look to the general outlines of the history of our time, and in particular to what one takes to be the overall direction and significance of that history."

Clearly, our leaders decided early on to follow "The Spirit of the Age," no doubt mesmerized by the strength of American capitalism. We cared little for our own languages and traditions. Instead of actively cultivating the soil from which it sprang, we treated national unity as a given. We ignored the truism that institutions must grow from the instincts of a people, and took the shortcut to institution-building by copying almost everything from America. In the process, we generated two cultures—a modern one that we enshrined in our laws and formal institutions, and a syncretic one that thrives in our everyday dealings.

This dualism has been upon us ever since—producing a split-level society with weak moorings. We pride ourselves in being able to participate extensively in the global labor market because of our fluency in English, little realizing how much this same Westernization has kept us from developing a stronger and more confident society. As a result, we have little to contribute to the global symphony of cultures that is not resonant of a heritage of imitation.

Yet what seems to bother our decision-makers is that our English is getting bad and that, perhaps, it is time to call "a summit to establish a uniform policy on the use of English in schools and in the workplace." The INQUIRER carried this report the other day (PDI, 11/4/05): "Labor Undersecretary Danilo Cruz said new job markets were not hiring Filipino workers because they failed in basic English proficiency…. Major reforms are needed to address the inability of Filipino students to be understood overseas, according to the labor official."

The problem, as I see it, is not that the teaching of English has deteriorated. It is, rather, that we are now sending more people abroad who in the course of their lives at home never needed to learn English to become productive. This is not an educational problem, but an economic and political one.

* * *

Comments to publiclives@gmail.com

Let reality bite

REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE

Patricia Evangelista

TONIGHT, A YOUNG MAN'S LIFE WILL CHANGE FOREVER. He will be ripped away from the bosom of friends—some will cry over his loss, guilt-ridden and helpless. He, too, will weep—shedding tears of anger, of regret, of where-did-I-go-wrong. Then the brave smile will appear, and he will walk those final few feet with head held high to the sound of a cheering, ecstatic crowd.

As I've spent the better part of a prepaid card to keep Jason in the Pinoy Big Brother House (and am desperately trying not to spend more), I'm on pins and needles waiting for the live telecast tonight.

For those who have not been attacked by the onslaught of the hit song "Pinoy Ako" and have not seen the astounding cross-promotion that ranges from vinegar to telecommunications, Pinoy Big Brother has fast become a national hobby. The Netherlands has developed a reality TV show taking off from George Orwell's classic novel titled "1984." The book described a sanitized, streamlined and restricted society watched over by an entity called Big Brother. Big Brother saw and knew all. All who opposed him lost their lives—or their minds.

The TV version is less frightening—although one can argue that losing the chance to win P5 million in cash and in kind is enough to drive someone mad.

The concept throws 12 people together inside one house for a hundred days—no cell phones, no computers, no television—and a housemate is evicted every two weeks. Big Brother (a voice over the PA system) sees all and hears all, with the help of lapel microphones and 52 cameras in various locations. The housemates nominate two or more among their circle for eviction, while the Filipino people, "American Idol" style, vote for the nominee they want to "save." The show has been such a hit that in some countries, Big Brother is playing for the eighth season.

A few weeks ago, PBB was suspended from airing because of "a kissing scene between housemates, gyrating dances in skimpy bikinis, double entendre dialogue." Why, the nerve of these housemates—to dare kiss for two full seconds on national TV! And to wear skimpy bikinis! (I'm sure, somewhere in the world, there's bound to be a conservative bikini.)

I won't be a hypocrite and say I believe in showing everything—which is why what is shown on the 10 p.m. slot is radically less than what is shown on the 24-hour cable channel. No matter how liberal some are, there are limits to the extent of liberalism a society can take at once. In the Netherlands, a Dutch woman gave birth on Big Brother, in Australia viewers are provided with a real life live show. Here, we kiss.

The argument against PBB (or reality TV, in general) is that it's not real. For a show that claims to be the soap opera of real life ("*ang teleserye ng totoong buhay*") the argument is dangerous but valid. How can anyone act normally with the full knowledge that millions of eyes are watching?

Some people will argue that you can't hide the real you, even on camera. I'm the type to walk into elevators looking for the bathroom and have, on more than one occasion, displayed my underwear after tripping down various sets of stairs. At one time, we were filming a live episode of "Breakfast," and I had just had my hair and makeup done. Feeling like Angel Locsin in a shampoo commercial, I flipped my hair, gave a flirtatious little smile to no one in particular, and banged my forehead straight into a camera. The crew burst into laughter, and another makeover had to be rushed to cover the bruise on my forehead. The footage of that episode is probably buried deep in the studio's archive. I hope.

I like to think that reality TV has some form of reality involved. True, it's not often that you're forced by a disembodied voice to jump around like a frog or bark like a dog. I agree that there may be some sort of scripting involved: in the selection of housemates, in the editing of a storyline, even in the defining of rules. But given this situation, this formula, this script, the choice of action rests on the housemates. That's real.

I gave a speech once to a private girls' school about the value of debate. A teacher stood up and indignantly asked about all those times a debater was forced to take a moral stand that "is wrong." She said that to defend abortion, prostitution and contraception even in debate was to open the doors of influence toward these "evils."

My answer is the same today as it was then. If a person can be so easily convinced by a debate, or by someone's influence, then how strong is his moral stance to begin with? But if in spite of discourse, a person still stands for a belief, then it speaks of a stand that is based on critical thought rather than blind belief. It is the same with TV—if it were so easy to influence us away from "traditional values," maybe, those values weren't as strong as we thought they were. On a practical level, it would be safer for a teenager to know why something like premarital sex could be good and bad rather than she just be told it was bad. They say it's repression that knocks up Catholic school girls.

It would be an exaggeration to claim that PBB is a mirror of Filipino reality. Maybe, it reflects some realities and highlights others. There are many who are offended by the liberalism of PBB. I've read dozens of blogs that go so far as to throw curses at both housemates and the production. The beauty of reality TV is that it shows segments of realities that are foreign to many. To deny their existence is similar to an ostrich sticking its head in the sand. How we take those realities and accept them is a choice, but TV forces the issue out into the open and makes way for debate.

I have a healthy respect for television and its influence. There are many who brag that they don't watch local TV, as if there is some special virtue in condemning it. When former housemate Rico was asked on interview how he felt about the events in PBB, he gave a supercilious little smile and said, "Actually, I don't have much time for that kind of thing now, I'm just too busy with media." Spoken by the guy whose claim to fame is being booted out the earliest.

The housemates risk being judged in their attempt at the prize. I'm guessing that we're judged by how we judge them.

Tonight, my man Jason risks being kicked out of the Big Brother house. He's a family man, with a kid, a pretty wife and a personality that comes across as both loyal and easygoing. He's up against Sam, the Phil-Am heartthrob with a gift for music and a face eerily resembling Piolo Pascual's. If anything, Pinoy Big Brother is an interesting reprieve from our reality, an escape from the daily grind of work, school and disappointment.

And unlike life, if we don't like what we see in PBB, we can always switch over to another channel. (This column was written before the Nov. 5 eviction night of PBB.)

* * *

Send comments to pat.evangelista@gmail.com

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

A lost generation across Asia's war zones (2)

IN MANY PARTS OF ASIA, CONFLICT AND WARFARE HAVE TAKEN THE LIVES of many—young and old, rich and poor. And children. Victims without a voice, they are being forced to grow up quickly. Children continue to be exploited, whether through voluntary or forced recruitment, for causes they may not comprehend.

Certain Asian countries are losing an entire generation. There are some 250,000 child soldiers worldwide, according to the United Nations Human Development Report for 2005.

Poverty drives many children into the ranks of armed groups. In many countries, rebel groups have recruited youth from the poorest backgrounds by offering them or their families cash or food.

The Asia News Network (ANN), a group of 12 national English language dailies in Asia, looks at this lost generation in this special series.

ANN was organized in 1999 to provide avenues for cooperation and to optimize coverage of major events in the region.

Its members are The Daily Star - Bangladesh; China Daily - China; The Statesman- India; The Jakarta Post - Indonesia; Daily Yomiuri and Yomiuri Shimbum - Japan; Sin Chew Daily - Malaysia; The Star - Malaysia; and Philippine Daily Inquirer - the Philippines.

The Straits Times - Singapore; The Korea Herald - South Korea; The Island - Sri Lanka; The Nation - Thailand; and Vietnam News - Vietnam.

Brothers, schoolmates go missing

By Namini Wijedasa
The Island

BATTICALOA, SRI LANKA—IT'S A SUNNY afternoon. Sudesh, 15, and two friends are strolling leisurely to class. Three men approach them, asking for directions.

Without warning, the men pull out wads of cloth and shove them against the noses of the unsuspecting boys. The fabric is doused with something that knocks them out. Swiftly, they are bundled into a vehicle and taken away.

It's really that easy to abduct a child in Batticaloa, a town perched precariously on the border between Sinhalese and Tamil regions in the northeast of Sri Lanka.

Their story is unfortunately not unique. Arun, 14, was abducted while traveling with some friends. As he was sped away on a motorcycle, his kidnappers threatened to kill his family if he resisted.

Raju, 15, had been staying at the Paddy Marketing Board tsunami camp here since being displaced from the town of Thiruchenthur.

"*Anna illai* (big brother isn't here)," replies his younger brother, Mani, when asked where his brother was.

Tsunami debris

Two months ago, Raju was walking to his workplace (he had been employed at a garage) when some men snatched him.

He has been missing since. He has no father. His mother, who is earning a few rupees by clearing tsunami debris or toiling at construction sites, doesn't have the means or the clout to have him released. She knows where he is but feels helpless.

Tiraimadu is a bustling town. Transitional houses are sprouting. Rows and rows of temporary shelters are being erected on what looks like a parched, white-hot desert.

In one shed, a girl is reading a book. Does she know of any children who disappeared in the past few days? "Oh yes," she nods. "Two boys from my tuition class were taken two weeks ago. They were from Grade 10."

The two Grade 10 students would be about 16 years old.

The names of all the children here have been made up to protect their real identities.

Tamil Tigers

Who is taking these children? Voices whisper in Tamil: "*Avarhal*." Them. Few dare to utter the name aloud. Such is the fear that grips the east of Sri Lanka.

"They need to prove to Batticaloa that they're back in charge," said Fr. Harry Miller, sardonically. "Batticaloa likes to think that it has thrown off the yoke of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)."

Child enlistment was a standard process for years, said the Jesuit priest.

Every Tamil family had to give the LTTE a child. Age was of relatively no consequence. It didn't matter whether the child was big enough to carry a gun. He—or she—would frequently be wrested kicking and screaming from the family.

The LTTE, in conflict with the Sri Lankan government since 1983, declared a unilateral ceasefire in late 2001. A formal ceasefire agreement between the Sri Lankan government and the LTTE followed in February 2002. Peace talks and negotiations took place in Norway, Germany and Thailand in 2002 and 2003, and a Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission (SLMM) of representatives from five Nordic countries was set up to keep tabs on the implementation of the ceasefire.

After the ceasefire was signed in 2002, everyone expected child recruitment to stop.

"The truce gave us a ready-made channel for lodging complaints, but taking the message to the LTTE has been no more productive than before," said Fr. Miller, himself a representative of the government on the SLMM. "It did not stop."

In April 2003, the peace talks broke down. According to the LTTE, it was because of a lack of progress in dismantling the army, in resettling the internally displaced Tamil population and in addressing poverty in the north and east of the island nation.

"No amount of complaining about child recruitment is ever met with acknowledgement," said Fr. Miller.

"Any attempt to find the children is subordinated. And never, ever have we been successful in getting any of them back. The only time they return to their families is when they escape."

Sudesh's tale

Sudesh is one such child. He was captured on Aug. 11 and broke out two days later. When speaking to The Island, his large, striking eyes keep darting fearfully, involuntarily, to the door of his grandparents' house. Unexpected noises make him start. He no longer sleeps at home and is escorted everywhere by his father.

His parents are desperate to send him away from Batticaloa but don't know where to or how.

Two other boys who had fled with Sudesh are now in other parts of the country.

"They took us to a camp," Sudesh said. "I don't know where because I was blindfolded and only half-conscious. We were guarded by some men. They had pistols and looked like senior members. My hands were tied with cloth."

"They told me to join Brother Prabhakaran (referring to LTTE chief Velupillai Prabhakaran)," he said.

"They wanted us to support the struggle. They asked us to fight for freedom, and for Tamil Eelam. They warned me that if I ran away, they would come in search of me and shoot me.

"They also told me that many more of my friends would be taken soon."

Alarmed when their son didn't return, Sudesh's parents reported his disappearance to the police, the International Committee of the Red Cross, Unicef (United Nations Children's Fund) and others.

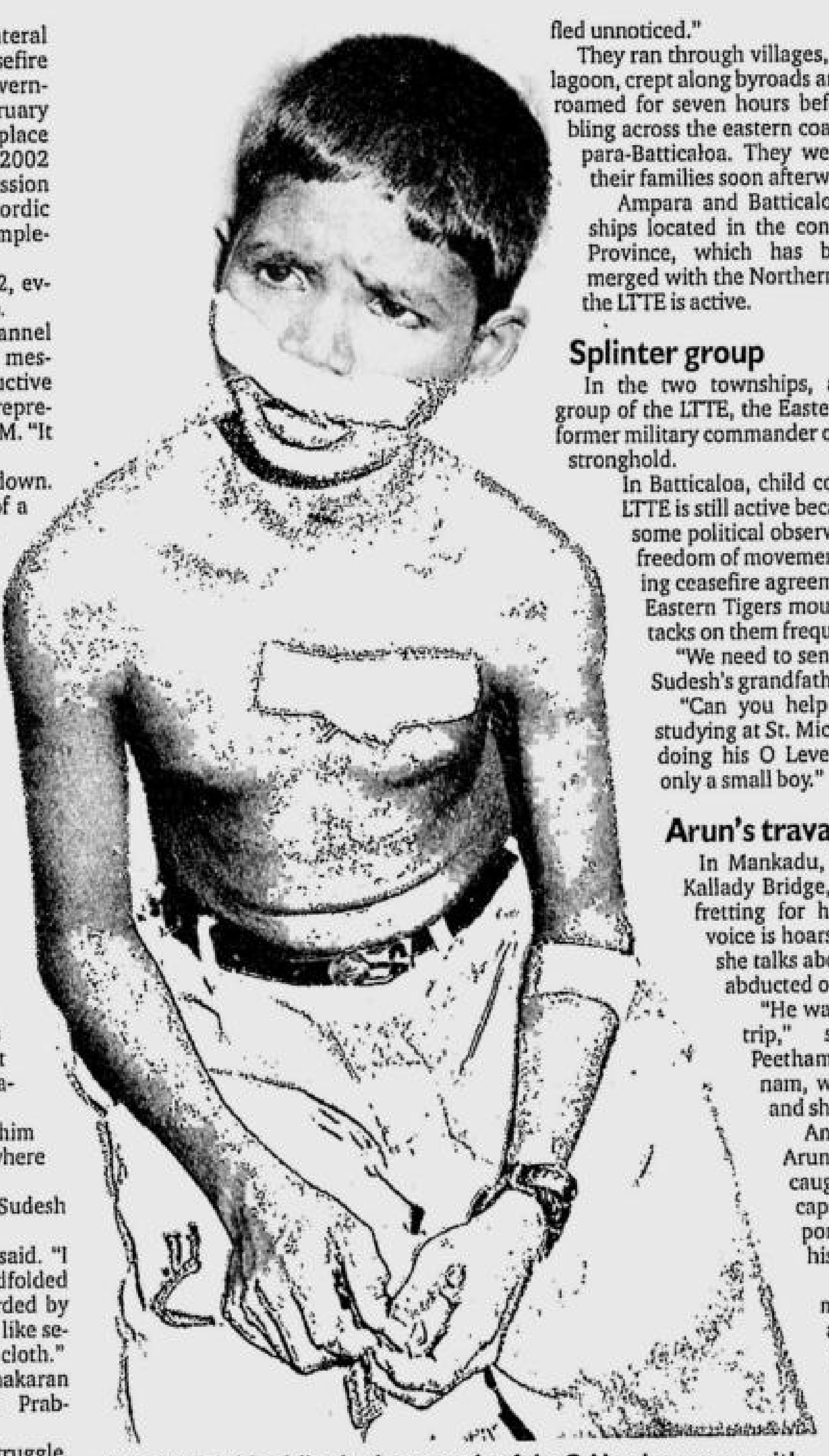
"They must have heard that my parents complained because they beat me a lot at the camp," Sudesh said.

"I still have the shirt I was wearing. Look at it." The back of the garment is ripped. He held it up, then twisted it into a ball and clasped it tightly in one hand.

"There were three other boys in the camp," he added. "Two days after our arrival, they were taken somewhere by a few of the guards. Since there were fewer men at our camp, we fled unnoticed."

They ran through villages, wandered past a lagoon, crept along byroads and pathways, and roamed for seven hours before finally stumbling across the eastern coastal roads of Ampara-Batticaloa. They were reunited with their families soon afterward.

Ampara and Batticaloa are two townships located in the conflict-torn Eastern Province, which has been temporarily merged with the Northern province, where the LTTE is active.



AN LTTE child soldier in the custody of the Sri Lankan army, with injuries sustained during a battle between government forces and the LTTE. THE ISLAND

Splinter group

In the two townships, a strong splinter group of the LTTE, the Eastern Tigers led by a former military commander of the LTTE, has its stronghold.

In Batticaloa, child conscription by the LTTE is still active because, according to some political observers, the outfit has freedom of movement under the ongoing ceasefire agreement, although the Eastern Tigers mount devastating attacks on them frequently.

"We need to send him away now," Sudesh's grandfather pleaded.

"Can you help us, please? He's studying at St. Michael's College and doing his O Levels in December... only a small boy."

Arun's travails

In Mankadu, across the famed Kallady Bridge, an old woman is fretting for her grandson. Her voice is hoarse. It quivers when she talks about Arun, who was abducted on Aug. 23.

"He wanted to go on that trip," said 65-year-old Peethambaram Nagaratnam, wringing her hands and shaking her head.

Another friend from Arun's group was also caught but later escaped. This boy reported the incident to his family.

Arun's uncle immediately leapt onto a motorbike and sped to the camp in Palukamam where his nephew was reportedly being held. He was sent away empty-handed.

The second time he tried to save Arun, the Tigers fired their guns into the air to intimidate him. They then told the distressed man to get a letter from another LTTE camp in Kokkadicholai authorizing Arun's freedom. He hasn't got the child out yet.

"We raised him," Peethambaram said. "His father deserted the family a long time ago. We want him back. He's a child, isn't he? Still studying.

"They (the LTTE) want him for their purposes. They can do whatever they want but we need him back."

A banner hanging in the Women and Children Bureau of the Batticaloa police station proclaims, "(The) future is (the) younger generation. It is our duty to protect them."

However, the police can apparently do very little to save children from being abducted by the LTTE. Parents, relatives and friends lodge complaints and file reports but the cases go no further.

"The police would never touch the LTTE," claimed Fr. Miller. "In most instances, there's nobody to call for help."

Unicef

Unicef has been criticized for being ineffective in combating child recruitment, but its spokesperson Geoffrey Keele said the situation in Sri Lanka was improving, albeit at a snail's pace.

Unicef has over 50,000 children—displaced and former child soldiers—in "catch-up education" programs in the country.

"Things are improving but it's improving slowly and it's going to be a long process to help rebuild this area after 20 years of warfare. The fact that we have these children in school is positive but we've only had this program running for a couple of years now," Keele said.

The education system in the North and East regions of Sri Lanka has been eviscerated by the conflict between the government and the LTTE.

"There is a shortage of 5,000 teachers. People are being displaced from their homes. Kids are dropping out from school or are being moved so many times that they have been away from school for too long," Keele said.

The long-term negative impact has caused a stagnant economy and a rising hopelessness. With no jobs being created, some children voluntarily join the LTTE because they feel they don't have any other option in life.

"A lot of children think, 'why bother going to school when there's no job to get afterward?' So children feel they don't have a lot of options in their lives," but the LTTE is one of them, Keele said.

Transit homes closed

He, however, added that Unicef's rebuilding work in education, health care and in training teachers and social workers should have an impact.

Due to the small number of child soldiers being released by the LTTE, Unicef has decided to shut down its "transit homes" in Batticaloa, Killinochi and Trincomalee, said Keele.

The transit homes were initially set up after the peace process began in 2002, for children who were or had been in the LTTE for such a long time that the transition back to ordinary society could have been difficult.

Over the last two years, about 1,200 children have been released by the LTTE. Keele said the vast majority of these children have gone straight back home.

The LTTE did not respond to Asia News Network's request for an interview.

With additional reporting by Yap Lih Huey in Colombo.

Even children charged with treason in Aceh

By Ridwan M.Sijabat
The Jakarta Post

JAKARTA—THERE WAS NOWHERE TO go. All thought of escaping from their burning homes. In an instant, residents in Aceh became refugees in their homeland.

They lived in refugee camps while waiting for clashes between separatist rebels and government forces to end. The conflict raged for nearly 30 years.

The peace agreement signed on Aug. 15 between Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) revived hopes for the refugees. Many are hoping to return to their homes to start life anew.

In the midst of the peace euphoria, child soldiers remain a crucial issue in the war-torn province.

Disarmament

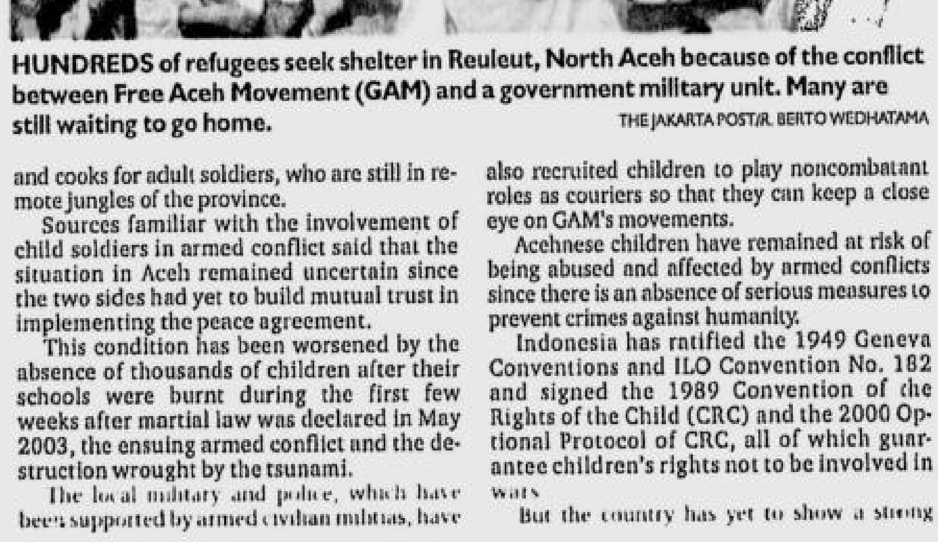
It does seem that the military and the police in Aceh and GAM's military wing are still using child soldiers. In addition to the absence of a strict ban on the recruitment of children in armed conflicts, the peace agreement has yet to be fully implemented.

Both sides have agreed to end armed conflict, but GAM has yet to disarm all its rebels—disarmament formally began on Sept. 15 and will be completed before Dec. 31.

Efforts to end the conflict in Aceh picked up pace after the Dec. 26 tsunami swept the province, killing some 130,000 people and leaving a half million others homeless.

If the peace agreement collapses, as was the case in two previous pacts, the children, along with adult soldiers, will certainly take up arms again to resume their fight for Aceh's independence.

For the time being, child soldiers have laid down their arms and joined noncombatant groups to take on the role of messengers, spies and cooks for adult soldiers, who are still in remote jungles of the province.



HUNDREDS of refugees seek shelter in Reuleut, North Aceh because of the conflict between Free Aceh Movement (GAM) and a government military unit. Many are still waiting to go home. THE JAKARTA POST/R. BERTO WEDHATAMA

Sources familiar with the involvement of child soldiers in armed conflict said that the situation in Aceh remained uncertain since the two sides had yet to build mutual trust in implementing the peace agreement.

This condition has been worsened by the absence of thousands of children after their schools were burnt during the first few weeks after martial law was declared in May 2003, the ensuing armed conflict and the destruction wrought by the tsunami.

The local military and police, which have been supported by armed civilian militias, have also recruited children to play noncombatant roles as couriers so that they can keep a close eye on GAM's movements.

Acehnese children have remained at risk of being abused and affected by armed conflicts since there is an absence of serious measures to prevent crimes against humanity.

Indonesia has ratified the 1949 Geneva Conventions and ILO Convention No. 182 and signed the 1989 Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the 2000 Optional Protocol of CRC, all of which guarantee children's rights not to be involved in wars.

But the country has yet to show a strong commitment to prevent children from joining armed groups.

The House of Representatives has worked on a number of legislative items, including Law No. 39 on human rights and Law No. 23/2002 on child protection, but neither criminalizes recruitment by individuals or parties of children into armed groups.

Light sanctions

Instead of adopting the 1998 Rome Statute of the International Court of Justice, which classifies the deployment of child soldiers in wars as crimes against humanity, Indonesia has come up with Law No. 26/2000 on human rights abuse courts. It carries light sanctions against those who use child soldiers.

The law fails to criminalize the recruitment of child soldiers and classifies it into the category of gross human rights abuse.

Even more disturbing is that the Indonesian government has jailed child soldiers, instead of returning them to their communities. They have been treated like adult rebels and charged with treason against the state.

Reintegration

Of more than 1,400 GAM prisoners receiving amnesty from the government, several "dozens" were children under 18 years of age.

Child soldiers and those granted amnesty are also facing a bleak future since the peace treaty failed to address problems related to the planned reintegration of children (and women) into their communities.

The government's commitment to honestly resolve the Aceh issue comprehensively will also be tested because the peace treaty fails to address all problems related to social reintegration and rehabilitation of former rebels, including former child soldiers.

According to the peace treaty, the government will make efforts to help reintegrate ex-rebels into their communities and allocate some farm land and money for them, but it remains unclear how the social reintegration and rehabilitation will be conducted on the ground.

And it presumably will not grant farmland or money to children.

The government should bear in mind that many children have joined these armed groups mostly to take revenge on either the government or the rebels for the deaths of their relatives.

If the child soldiers are not rehabilitated and reintegrated in a proper manner, they will remain bitter and traumatized by the war. This could prompt them to take up arms again.

Goodwill

Reintegration and rehabilitation are an integral part of the disarmament and demobilization of rebels and child soldiers. Both must be handled with extra caution in an endeavor to build a permanent peace in the province.

Therefore, the government should show its goodwill by taking necessary measures and concrete steps to deal with the adult rebels, women and children who have been involved in the conflict.

To help make social reintegration and rehabilitation a success, the government should let civil society groups—nongovernment organizations (NGOs), religious institutions and other third parties—play a major role.

The government should enhance cooperation with NGOs, Islamic boarding schools and religious organizations to provide a comprehensive education package, including psychological counseling and peace education for ex-child soldiers, to ensure a smooth transition back to their communities. ▪

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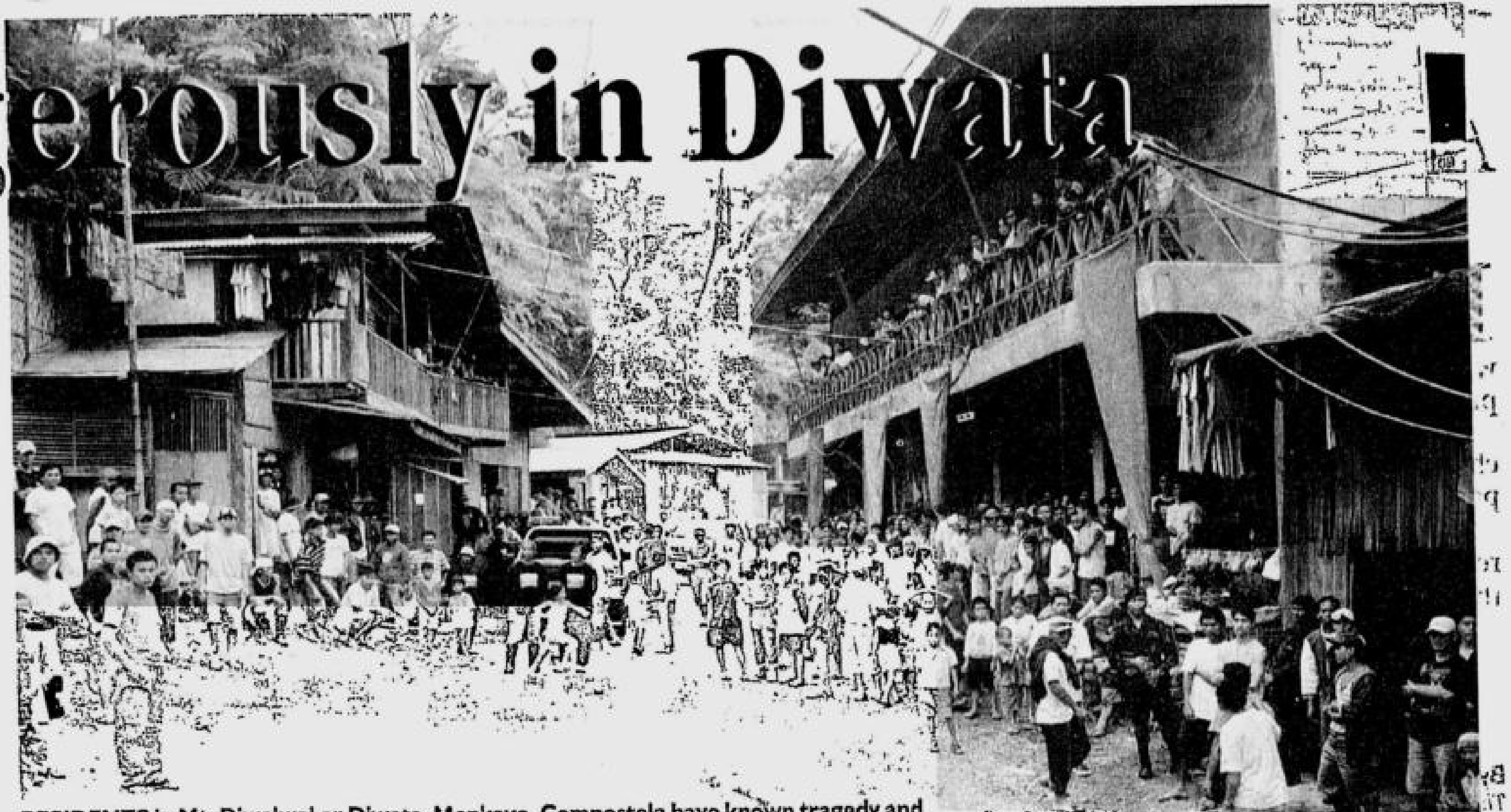
INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Living dangerously in Diwata



RESIDENTS in Mt. Diwalwal or Diwata, Monkayo, Compostela have known tragedy and violence for decades since the boom of the gold-rush in the 1980s. PHOTOS BY DENNIS JAY SANTOS

By Dennis Jay Santos
Mt. Diwata, Compostela Valley

IN THE GOLD-RUSH area in Compostela Valley's Mount Diwata, death lurks everywhere.

For the upland community of small miners, the tunnel explosion that killed 17 persons on Oct. 26 was only one of those harsh realities that they must embrace in search of a better future. In a matter of days, they expect life to go back to "normal," for after all, they have witnessed similar incidents in the past.

Since gold was discovered in Diwata, known as Diwalwal among the miners, in the early 1980s, dozens of people have died in cave-ins, caused by either accidents or saboteurs. One of the worst tunnel collapses occurred on Dec. 26, 1997, resulting in the death of about 80 miners.

Dynamite ban

To prevent further loss of lives, the government banned the use of dynamite—the main cause of cave-ins—in 2003 when it took over control of the mining operations.

Col. Antonio Amodia, head of the 404th Infantry Brigade based in Mawab, Davao del Norte, said he could not discount the possibility that explosives were being smuggled into the community. The military could not monitor everything, he said.

Two days after the latest tunnel blast, a 12-year-old boy suffered shrapnel wounds while playing with a blasting cap that he mistook for a toy.

Franco Tito, village chair, said he could not say if the ban was being strictly enforced. He said the recent explosion inside the Sunshine Tunnel, which is owned by JB Mining Management, was caused by dynamite.

Another reason why tunnels give in is the mining area's unstable ground. In June 1998, the Mines and Geosciences Bureau in Southern Mindanao reported that heavy rainfall had been loosening the soil, and that cave-ins and landslides were always to be expected.

Wild, wild west

But Diwata's story is not all about landslides and cave-ins.

Tito said the mountain had since been considered a "wild, wild west" of sorts.

"Everyone carries a gun and that's because roads are so small, you literally cannot pass through if you don't point your gun at someone who doesn't give way," he said.

Because of stiff rivalry among miners, guns have become indispensable for security or, in some instances, eliminating competitors.

There has been no exact count of how many people have died in the rush for control of the mining operations, but the toll is not lower than 500.

One of the fatalities was former Mayor Joel Brillantes of Monkayo, one of the pioneer miners who died from an assassin's bullet in June 2003.

Survival

Tito, an early prospector himself, has survived an attack. Nowadays, he moves around, always with his bodyguards.

Like the rest of the mine workers, Rufino Mira, 48, said he had learned to live with the dangers—man-made and natural—because he has a family to feed. He makes P7,000 a month.

The miners are not the only ones cashing in on the gold bonanza. Some settlers earn by selling goods and services.

At the height of the mining activities, the population swelled to more than 100,000. More than half of them have left, fed up by the harsh conditions.

Those who stayed have since enjoyed the good life. Among them is Brillantes, who has acquired properties even in areas as far as Davao City.

According to experts, Diwata's gold reserves could generate as much as $18 billion. This is perhaps the reason small and the so-called big-time miners continue to defy recent government efforts to shut down the area.

Tito, who heads a group of small-scale miners, said the government wanted foreign-owned companies to come in since no local firms could afford or had the capability of extracting ores.

"We won't allow this because this will remove us from our only way of making a living," Tito said.

The government has softened its stand. Although it considered small-scale mining illegal, it created the National Resources Mining Development Corp. to oversee the mining activities.

The small miners give the government a share of what they extract in exchange for their continued operations.

For Tito, small-scale mining is better than the open-pit method employed by large companies.

Money from gold makes life a lot better in Diwata, he said. But will there be an end to violence and death?

AURELIO Pagaran, 49, a miner who tried to rescue other trapped miners end up being hurt himself and was later brought to a hospital.

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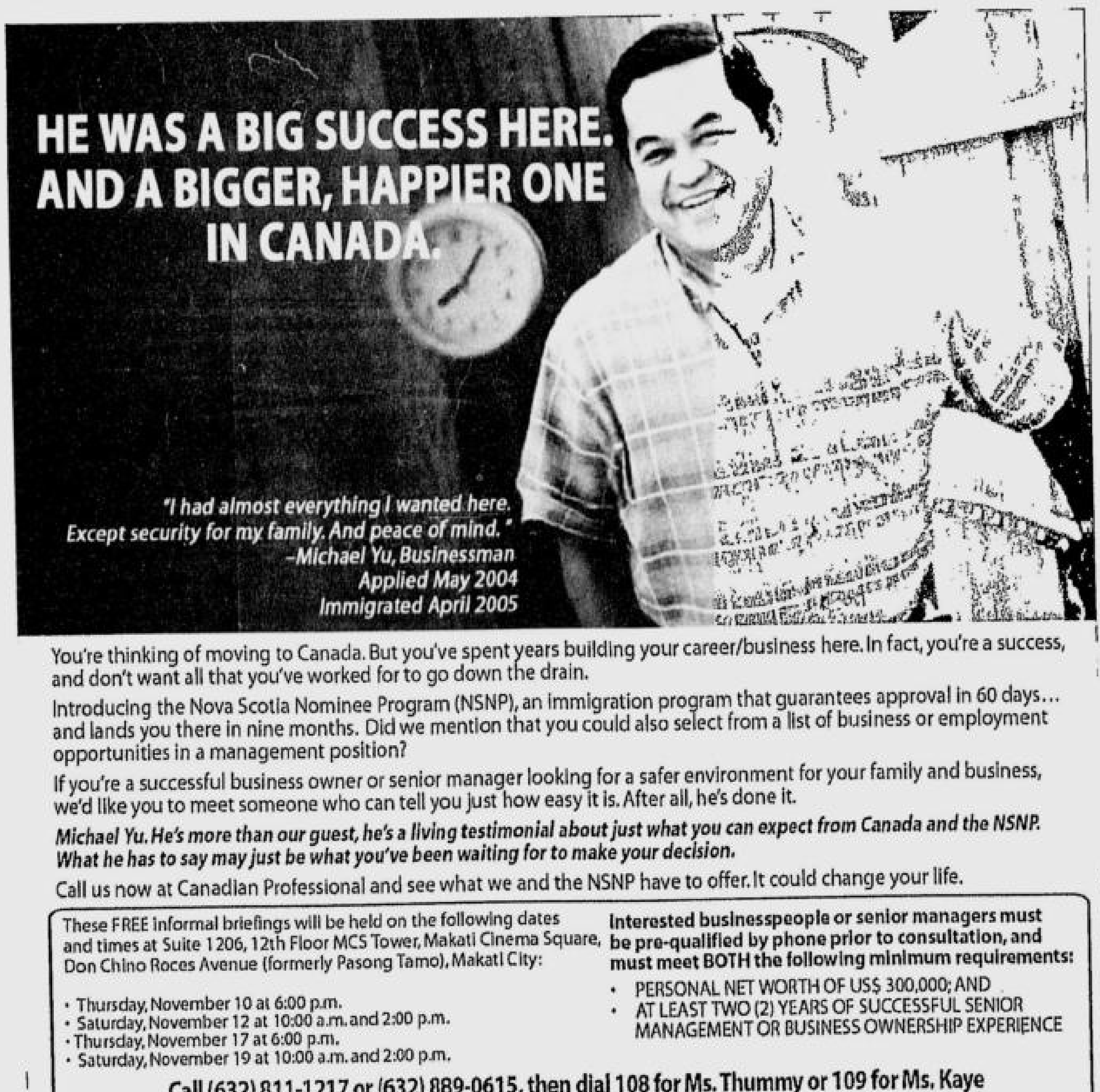

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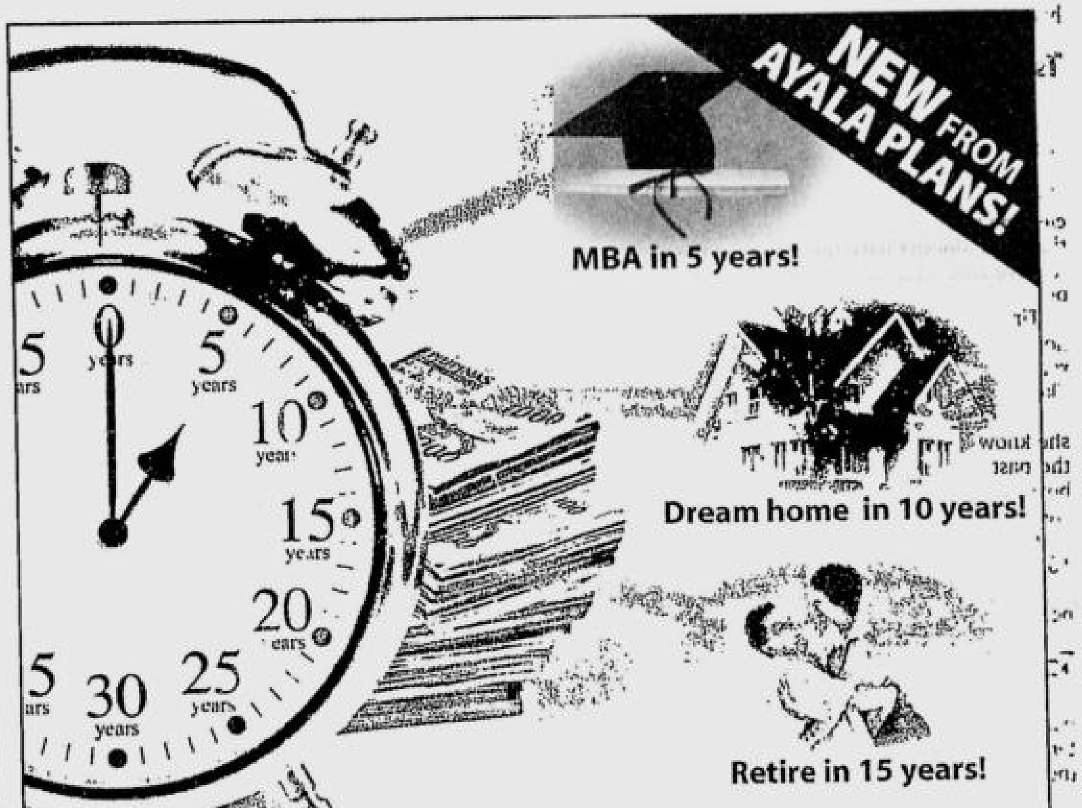

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FAMILY REUNION JUAN ESCANDOR JR./PDI SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
The family of the late senator Raul Roco gathers at his grave on the eve of All Souls' Day to honor him.

MILF heeds Malaysian request, leaves camp

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—MEMBERS OF THE MORO ISLAMIC Liberation Front (MILF) voluntarily demolished structures and foxholes in their newly-established camp in Tupi, South Cotabato in compliance with the order of the Malaysian-led International Monitoring Team (IMT).

The IMT is monitoring the implementation of a ceasefire agreement signed by the government and the MILF peace panels. Under the ceasefire agreement, the MILF is not allowed to set up new camps or recruit new members.

On Friday, members of the monitoring team led by Malaysian Col. Arikin Hamid, Col. Franklin del Prado, spokesperson of the Army's 6th Infantry Division, some members of the media and local officials, went to the area to check whether the MILF has complied with the IMT directive.

When they reached the area, they found that the entire camp had already been demolished.

Only about 30 of the 100 fully-armed MILF fighters led by a certain Commander Big Boy met the visiting members of the monitoring team in the area.

Commander Diego del Moro, another MILF commander who helped set up the new camp, did not show up after his name was implicated as among those who were trained by Jemaah Islamiyah explosives experts.

Del Prado, however, clarified the military has not yet received such a report about Del Moro. He said Del Moro's name surfaced only during the height of a controversy involving the setting up of a new camp.

"We are not hunting him (Del Moro) down. We never heard of such report. His name came out only after the setting up of new MILF camp in the area," Del Prado said.

Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Pampanga city won't talk trash on waste

DI NA AKO UULIT!

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—People and companies that throw garbage in wrong places in this Pampanga capital do not go unpunished.

The 150 violators from Sept. 1 to Nov. 2 were fined, ordered to clean their surroundings or render four hours a day of community services. They were the first to be held since the city government got tough in implementing the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 (Republic Act No. 9003).

On Friday, first-time offenders Imelda Pablo and six others went house to house in Barangay Del Pilar, distributing pamphlets on how to properly segregate, recycle and dispose of wastes. They failed to pay the P500 fine so they opted to do community service.

Pablo pitched in for her husband, Mauro, whom the city's eco-police caught for throwing used plastic bags at an illegal dump.

"[Mauro] has to sell fish balls so I have to substitute for him," Pablo said.

"Now, he has learned his lesson well because I have to stand in for him," she said.

"We're just trying to discipline them," said Alfredo Dayrit, chief of the eco-police, the enforcement arm of the city's solid waste management task force.

The eco-police make sure that offenders are not humiliated. "That would be a violation of their rights," Dayrit said.

Illegal dumping of garbage, Dayrit said, occurs mostly at night.

He said with three local ordinances in place and RA 9003, the more than 300,000 residents in 35 barangays and the more than 7,000 business establishments in the city have "no option but to reduce and recycle their garbage."

Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Palaweños reject region transfer

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—PALAWEÑOS REjected the proposal of Malacañang to transfer the province to Western Visayas.

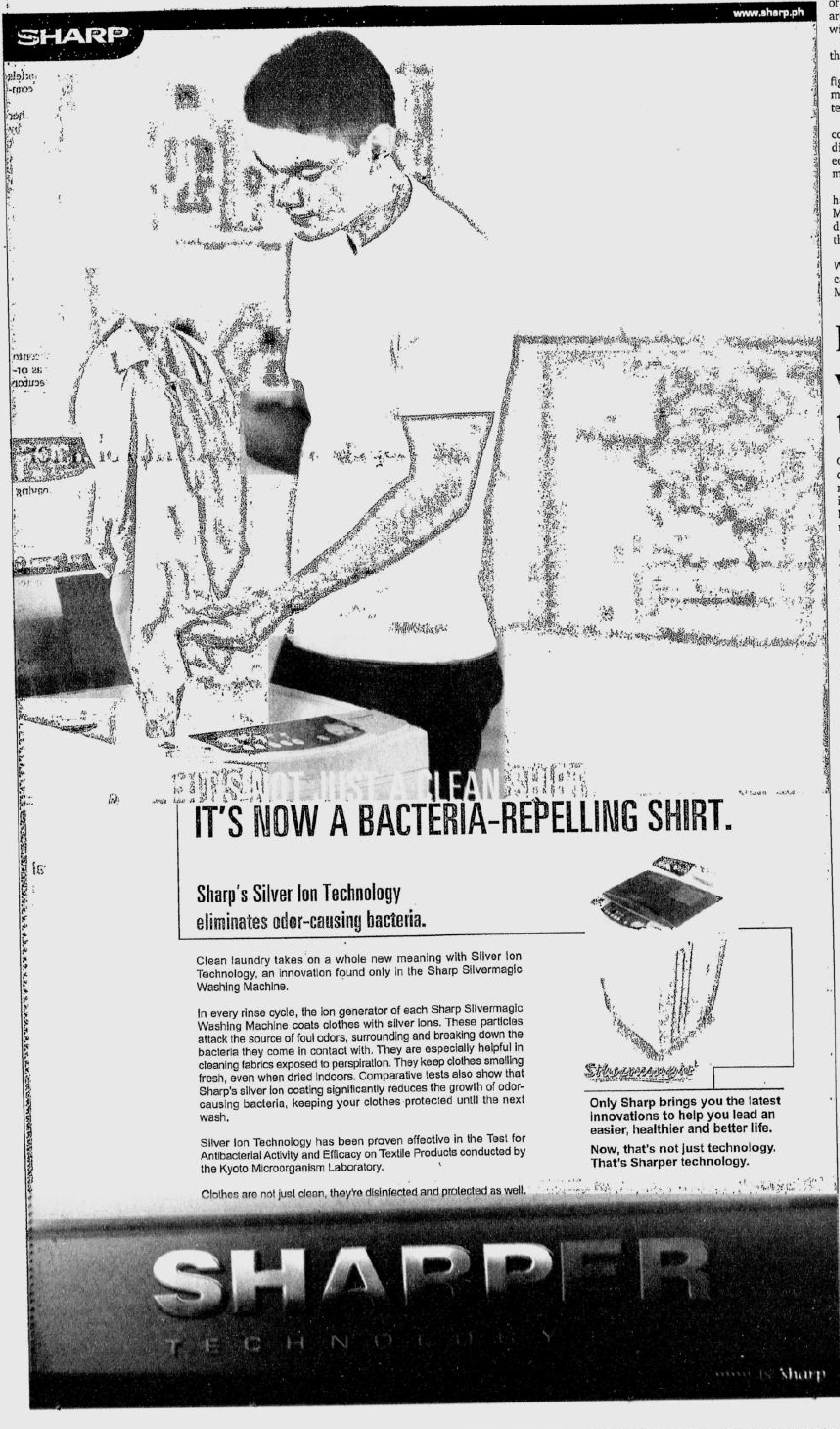
During a two-month series of consultations conducted by the Department of Interior and Local Government among residents of 23 municipalities and this city, which ended last week, 98 percent of Palaweños said they wanted the province to remain in Region 4 than be made under Region 6.

Out of the 23 towns, only Cagayancillo favored the transfer.

Cagayancillo is nearer Iloilo and has been doing trade relations with neighboring Visayan towns.

The Taytay and Araceli town councils agreed to the transfer but the people rejected the proposal.

President Macapagal-Arroyo signed Executive Order 439 transferring Palawan to Region 6 but it was hit by local officials and residents for lack of consultation. *Jofelle P. Tesorio, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*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E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

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Half-way home for seniors

THE SM Felicidad Sy Center for the Elderly on J.P. Rizal Street was opened recently for Makati City's senior citizens. The former Tejeros Barangay Hall will be a recreation center and half-way home. It has audio-visual equipment and books, among others. Makati City Mayor Jejomar Binay thanked the SM Foundation Inc. for sponsoring the center. *Jocelyn R. Uy*

Bike cops to fight crime

ILLUSTRATION: ANTHONY MISTADES

THE MUNTINLUPA City police is considering the use of motorcycles instead of patrol cars when responding to crime reports. City police chief Senior Supt. Roberto Rongavilla told the INQUIRER motorcycles would be more maneuverable during heavy traffic, and also require less maintenance and fuel. The local police has around 15 motorcycles, mostly private property, and 23 mobile cars. *Jocelyn R. Uy*

'Hot meat' task force

CALOOCAN has created the "Bantay Karne" task force to ensure that all meat products sold in the city were fit for consumption. City Mayor Enrico Echiverri said the group would monitor the movements of livestock and meat in and out of the city. Local governments have been asked by the National Meat Inspection Service to help eradicate meat diseases. *Nancy C. Carvajal*

SSS draw Nov. 14

THE SOCIAL Security System (SSS) will hold at 2 p.m., Nov. 14, the final draw for its amnesty program for short-term loans. Lucky borrowers can win cash prizes. The draw, to be held at the Ramon Magsaysay Hall of the SSS Main Building on East Avenue, Quezon City, will raffle off the last 100 delinquency assistance certificates of P5,000 each to borrowers participating in the program. Call the SSS hot line: Metro Manila, 9206446/55; Cebu (032)2342053; and Davao, (082)2277273; main office, 9206401; e-mail member_relations@sss.gov.ph. or visit www.sss.gov.ph.

Coffee drinkers learn a new language

By Margaux C. Ortiz

HANDS do the 'talking' at the Deck Coffee shop at DLS-CSB canteen.

ERIK ARAZAS

CAFFEINE JUNKIES WHO GET their fix at the Deck Coffee, the newest coffee shop of the De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde (DLS-CSB) canteen are learning a new form of communication.

The coffee shop, run by young deaf entrepreneurs, encourages customers to use sign language when placing their orders for coffee and gourmet sandwiches.

"Aside from (having) deaf employees, our coffee shop also gives the hearing an opportunity to communicate with us through sign language," Deck Coffee general manager Benjo Sigua, chair of the the Deaf Benildean Multi-Purpose Cooperative (DBMC) that owns and operates the coffee shop.

Employment and Business Opportunities coordinator Matt Navalta said the DBMC's endeavor was a big breakthrough for the deaf community.

"This is probably the first time that deaf entrepreneurs are running their own business," Navalta, one of the group's mentors, said proudly.

The enterprise developed after co-op members, then business students of the DLS-CSB School of Deaf Education and Applied Studies, joined the Youth Employment Spark Business Plan Competition organized by the Dutch National Youth Council and the Philippine Resources for Sustainable Development (PRSD) in February.

The seven-member class, competing as a cooperative, won the top prize of P300,000.

Initially the group planned to put up a pizza parlor, but later opted to acquire a franchise of Deck Coffee.

The group had only P350,000 as capital but the owner of Deck Coffee gave them a big discount for the franchise fee.

"It was difficult at first," Sigua signed. "We had a really hard time keeping up, especially when we saw that some customers were getting impatient."

SDEAS business track coordinator Charlie Jayco said the staff panicked initially with the huge turn-out of customers.

Despite the "birthing pains," the deaf entrepreneurs "feel very happy and satisfied."

"People are literally lining up," Jayco said with a smile. He said they had almost doubled their initial sales target within the first week of operations.

Sigua said they were continuously thinking of ways to improve their services. For example, they are using white boards to explain the menu—and the difference between one dish or drink and another—to patrons.

If customers have a hard time using sign, they could simply mark their orders on special menu slips, Sigua said.

"We are also trying to figure out codes for each item so we would not have to spell everything out with our fingers every time an order comes up," he signed.

Their enterprise has made Sigua and his partners models and inspiration to the deaf community.

"We would like to help other aspiring deaf entrepreneurs by giving them the chance to work for the company and equipping them with the necessary skills if they want to put up businesses of their own," Sigua signed.

Medical mission to treat Manilans

By Tina G. Santos

TEMPORARILY LEAVING behind a comfortable life and lucrative medical practice in America, several Filipino-Americans are conducting a medical mission in Manila starting tomorrow (Monday) to help ailing poor *kababayan*.

About 300 to 400 Manila residents are expected to have an early Christmas courtesy of the Norwegian-American Surgical and Medical Mission, said Vice Mayor Danny Lacuna.

The team of physicians, surgeons and nurses from the Norwegian American Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, will perform surgeries for free, including open heart surgery if necessary.

The mission, now on its 12th year, will be held in different poor communities of Manila, Lacuna said.

He said surgeries would be performed at the Philippine General Hospital and Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center (JRMMC).

Dr. John Monteverde, a cardio-surgeon team member, said the medical mission allowed them to "give back to the people since we have been blessed."

The team also brought medicines and medical equipment.

During their visit, the group also intends to dedicate a ward at the JRMMC to the late Dr. Norman Dahl, the mission's prime mover.

Dahl led the medical mission until his demise in June.

Among the communities to be visited by the medical team are Balut, Del Pan and Baseco, all in Tondo, Manila.

Lacuna invited people in those areas to take advantage of the mission's visit.

Arrest warrant for Jaylo?

By Tina G. Santos

A WARRANT OF ARREST MAY BE ISsued against former Capt. Reynaldo Jaylo, head of the defunct Presidential Anti-Illegal Recruitment Task Force (PAIRTF).

The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) filed charges of usurpation of authority and serious illegal detention, a non-bailable offense, against Jaylo and eight of his men arrested during a raid Friday.

The charges were filed late Friday afternoon with the Department of Justice (DOJ).

If the charges were filed in court, NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco said the judge could issue an arrest warrant against Jaylo, now director of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA).

Arrested during the raid of the PAIRTF office at PNB Building, Rizal Memorial Compound, Adriatico Street, Malate, were Antonio Aviermo Jr., Gerardo Quigol, Redante Cortez, Noy Jaylo, Fernando Jardin Jr., Edgar Ignacio, Abelardo de Jesus and Ernesto Nicomedes.

Assistant Regional Director Vicente de Guzman said the bureau was ordered by DOJ Senior State Prosecutor Emmanuel Velasco to look into allegations of sub-human conditions of PAIRTF detainees.

Police collar suspected car side mirror thief

By Nancy C. Carvajal

POLICE ARRESTED AT DAWN YESterday an alleged member of a group engaged in carnapping and side-mirror theft in Quezon City.

A police official said there had been a marked increase in incidence of side mirror snatching in various parts of Metro Manila.

According to a police report, Raymundo de Guzman, 33, and an unidentified companion were in a white taxi with plate number TVG-362 at Epifanio de los Santos Avenue corner Seminary Road, Bago Bantay, QC, when spotted by a police patrol car with SPO3 Wilfredo Bautista and Joselito Moreno on board.

"They were acting suspiciously and we asked them to pull over," the policemen said.

De Guzman's partner, who was driving the taxi, suddenly ran leaving his partner and the cab behind.

Found inside the taxi were assorted side mirrors, hubcaps, back and tail lights for different kinds of vehicles.

Police also discovered tools for removing side mirrors and other car accessories.

The suspect, police said, could not produce any paper to show ownership of the things inside the vehicle.

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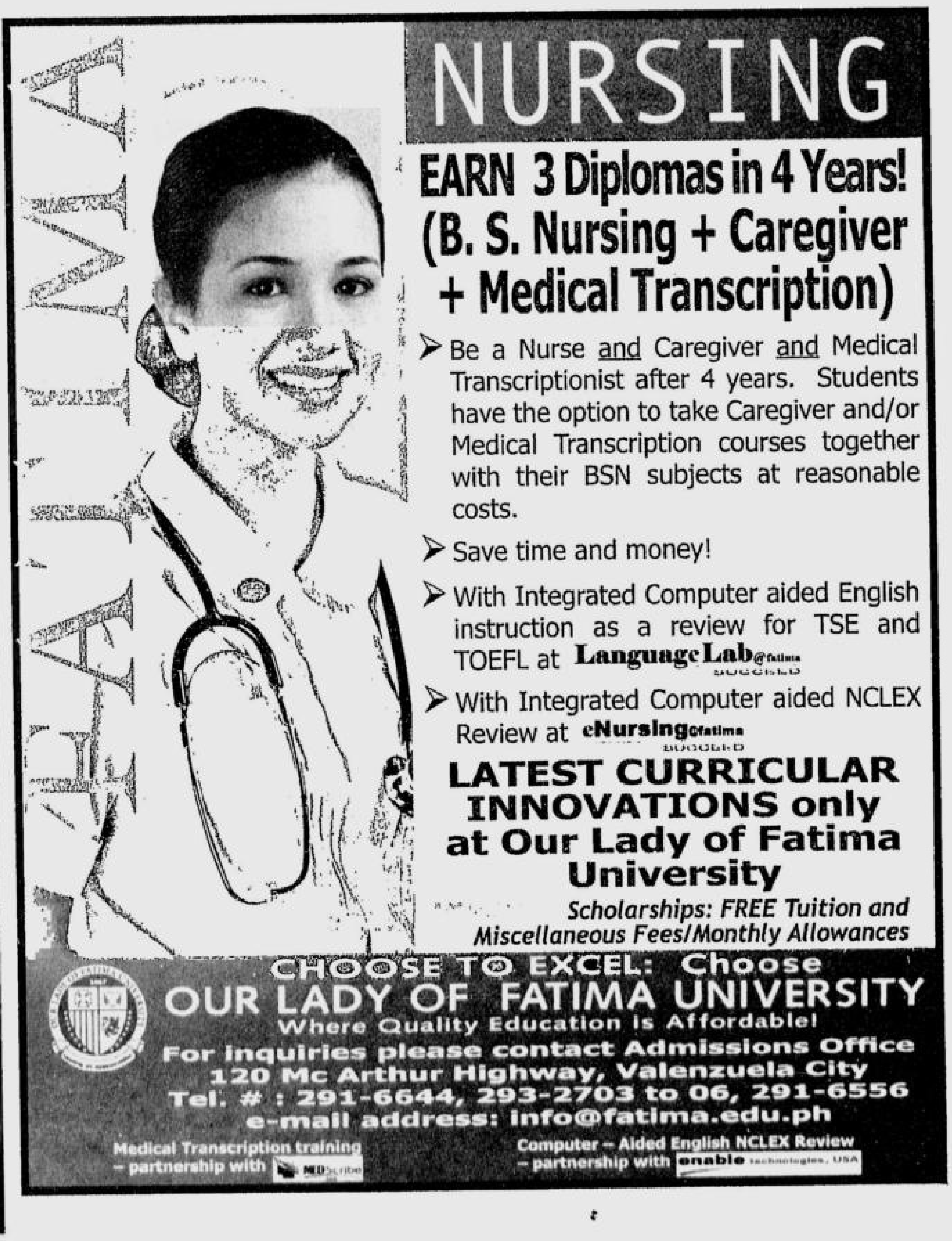

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Sunday SPORTS

Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**

Tigers dump Barako

By June Navarro

RAFI REAVIS PERKED UP COCA-Cola's frontline and its campaign as the Tigers celebrated his return with an 82-64 thumping of the Red Bull Barako last night in the San-Mig Coffee-PBA Fiesta Conference at the Leyte National High School gym in Tacloban City.

Reavis banged in 12 points and plucked down seven rebounds in his first game after being suspended at the start of the season but these figures hardly reflected the impact he created for the Tigers' breakthrough win.

GAMES TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
4:10 p.m.—Ginebra vs Air21
6:40 p.m.—TNT vs Alaska

With the 6-foot-8 forward manning the paint, the Tigers were again menacing at the low blocks as they effectively slowed the high-scoring Quemont Greer throughout the one-sided contest. Greer had 16 points but made just seven out of 23 shots and missed five of his seven free throws.

The Tigers thus halted a four-game slide and notched their second win in seven games while sending the Barako to their fourth defeat in eight games.

For failing to present documents required for foreign-born players, Reavis was suspended before the season started. He was reinstated when the board of governors passed an amnesty measure that superceded its earlier ruling.

The win erased the stigma of the Tigers on the road. They lost six of their seven road games last season after going 4-0 in 2003. In their worst start ever in franchise history, the Tigers are now hoping to change their misfortunes with the expected return of Rudy Hatfield in the coming games.

The scores:

COCA-COLA 82—Thomas 24, Reavis 12, Arigo 11, Peek 10, Antonio 10, Mamaril 6, Abarrientos 5, Raneses 2, Singson 2.

RED BULL 64—Greer 16, Valenzuela 14, Pennisi 8, Tugade 7, Fonacier 7, Najorda 6, Villanueva 4, Robinson 2.

Quarters: 26-22, 44-34, 58-47, 82-64

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Magnolia, G. Goose trim foes

By Jasmine W. Payo

MAGNOLIA ICE CREAM, STARRING KELLY Williams and Arwind Santos, overwhelmed Rain or Shine in the final period for a 74-57 triumph yesterday that gave the Wizards the early lead in the PBL Heroes Cup eliminations at the JCSGO Gym.

Williams led the Wizards with 14 points and 16 rebounds and Santos backed him up with a double-double of his own—13 markers and 10 boards—as Magnolia streaked to its second straight win.

Jeff Bombeo also made quite an impact, pumping in 12 points, including key baskets in the Wizards' pivotal run that started late in the third and spilled all the way into the final canto.

"My players showed perseverance even when threatened early in the third quarter," said Magnolia coach Koy Banal."

Earlier, Granny Goose leaned on the clutch plays of veteran guard Toti Almeda for a 62-54 win over Toyota Otis-Letran.

The Tortillos yielded a 20-point lead, 45-25, late in the third period, before Almeda scored 10 of his team's final 12 points to secure their first victory in two games.

The win was also a fitting sendoff for coach Jun Tan, who called the shots for Granny Goose for the last time as former national mentor Joe Lipa is set to take over on Thursday.

"I told the players to just give me this win and it's good they responded," said Tan, who will now focus on his business in his hometown Cebu.

Before Almeda's heroics in the closing minutes, Jett Latonio and burly center JR Quinahan combined to give Granny Goose that huge lead. Both finished with 15 points like Almeda.

Rain or Shine dropped into a tie with Granny Goose at 1-1 while Toyota Otis took its second straight loss. Harbour Center is the only other unbeaten team after Magnolia at 1-0.

With Santos fueling a late third-quarter run, the Wizards raced to a 57-49 lead to end the period.

Williams and Bombeo then teamed up, scoring Magnolia's first nine points for a 66-54 edge heading into the final 4:50.

The scores:

First Game

GRANNY GOOSE 62—Almeda 15, Quinahan 15, Latonio 15, Ferrer 4, Lanete 3, Alfad 2, David 2, Ibanes 2, Santos 2, Pribhdas 2, Cruz 0, Concha 0, Grijaldo 0, Cervantes 0, Gavino 0.

TOYOTA OTIS 54—Devance 12, Bautista 9, Aban 8, Capati 6, Larong 5, Daa 4, Alcaraz 3, Oreta 3, Aldave 2, Tagupa 2, Rodriguez 0, Andaya 0.

Quarters: 13-9, 32-20, 45-31, 62-54

Second Game

MAGNOLIA 74—Williams 14, Santos 13, Bombeo 12, Misolas 6, Rizada 6, Jones 6, Angeles 5, Chan 5, Isip 3, Valenzuela 2, Co 2, Te 0.

RAIN OR SHINE 57—Tangkay 27, Malabanan 9, Ortiguerra 6, Cabatu 5, Reyes 4, Aljamal 3, Tan 0, Enrile 0, Guevarra 0, Orbeta 0, Alastre 0.

Quarters: 17-13, 33-32, 57-49, 74-57

Rosales fires 68, takes 5th

RAYONG, THAILAND—GERALD ROSALES took over as Philippine spearhead in the $300,000 Double A International Open, firing a 5-under-par 68 to move within four strokes of India's Shiv Kapur after three rounds Saturday.

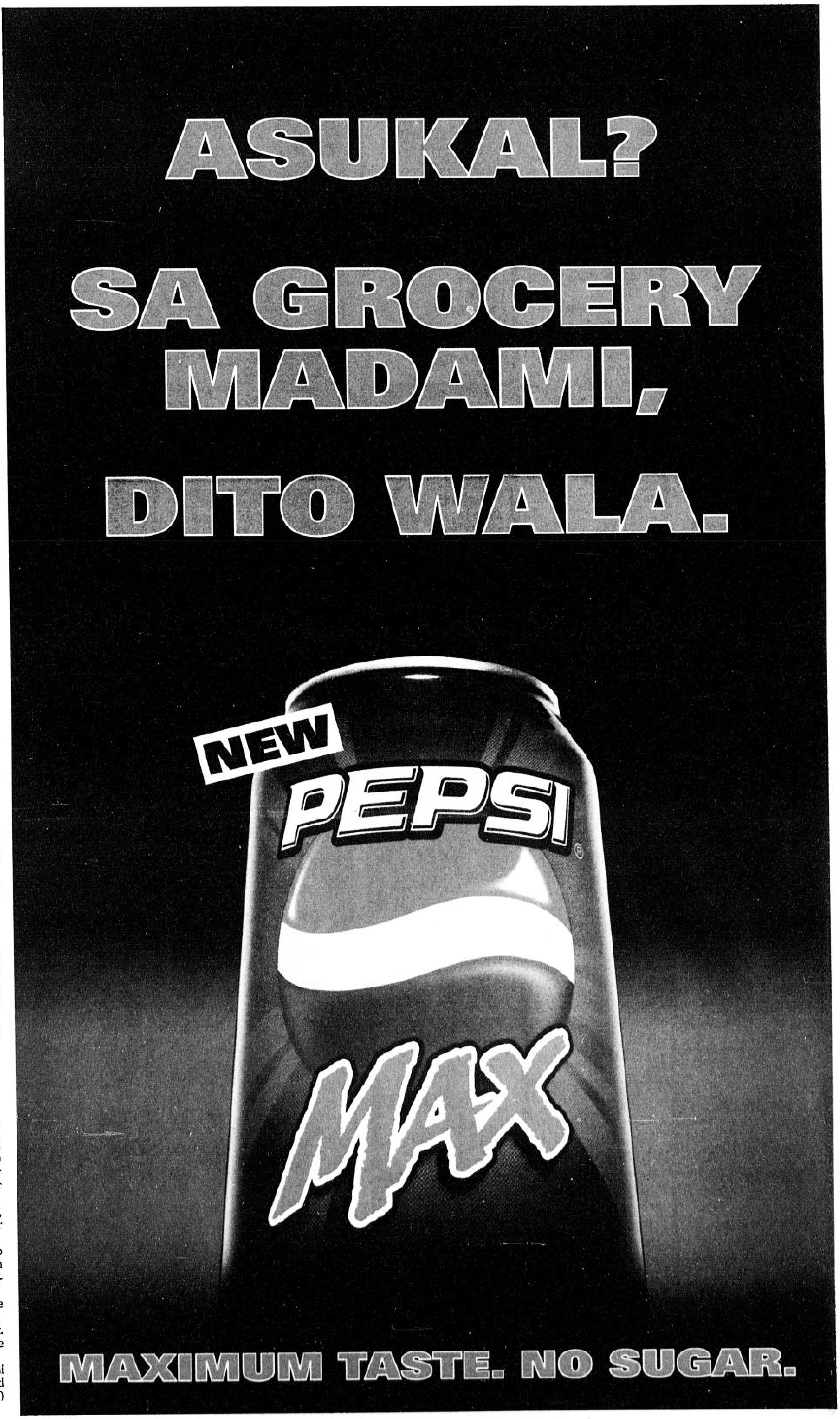
The brother of LPGA regular Jennifer Rosales, who carded earlier rounds of 72-70, had a 9-under 210 aggregate to share fifth spot with three others.

Angelo Que, the top RP scorer in the first two rounds, stumbled with a 75 and found himself in the company of compatriot Cookie La'O, who rallied with a 70 for a 5-under 214 total.

Jerome Delariarte, the fourth Filipino to make the 36-hole cut, was way behind at 222 after a 75.

Kapur cooled down with a 72 at the par 73 St. Andrews Hill (2000) Golf Club and saw his 3-stroke overnight lead cut to one with a 206 total.

Last season's Asian Tour number one Thongchai Jaidee of Thailand sizzled with a 69 to grab second place at 207. Thailand's Thammanoon Srirot (72) and Simon Yates of Scotland (71) stood at 209.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movietime SCHEDULE AND EVENTS

FILM FESTIVAL

Megamall
ISRAELI FILM FESTIVAL
Nov. 14-19
Cinema 6

RED CARPET PREMIERE

Megamall
ANG PAGDADALAGA NI MAXIMO OLIVEROS
Nov. 14 • Cinema 1

Megamall
EXORCISM OF EMILY ROSE
Nov. 21 • Cinema 1

Megamall
THE MYTH
Nov. 18 • Cinema 1

Megamall
AN UNFINISHED LIFE
Nov. 28 • Cinema 2

GUARANTEED SEATS

THE PODIUM 633-8976

1 FOUR BROTHERS
11:30/11:55/02:10/04:25/06:40
08:30LFS/09:00LMF/10:50END

2 GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL

MEGAMALL

1 DOOM
11:00FS/11:15MF/01:20/03:25/05:30/07:35
09:20LFS/09:40LMF/11:25END

CEBU (032) 231-3876

1 DOOM
12:00FS/12:10MF/02:02/03:54/05:46/07:38
09:23LFS/09:30LMF/11:15END

2 LEGEND OF ZORRO
10:50FS/11:10MF/01:45/04:20/06:55
09:05LFS/09:30LMF/11:40END

3 TRANSPORTER 2
10:50FS/11:00MF/12:45/02:30/04:15/06:00
07:45/09:15LFS/09:30LMF/11:00END

MANILA

6 LEGEND OF ZORRO
10:45FS/11:00MF/01:40/04:20/07:00
09:20LFS/09:40LMF/12:00END

METRO MANILA

SM MEGAMALL
1 DOOM
2 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
3 LEGEND OF ZORRO
4 ISPIRISTISTA
5 DOMINO
6 LORD OF WAR
7 WAITING
8 ISPIRITISTA
9 FOUR BROTHERS
10 THE GHOST INSIDE
11 DEUCE BIGALOW
12 MY SASSY GIRL

SM CITY STA. MESA
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 DOOM
3 FOUR BROTHERS
4 WAITING
5 ISPIRITISTA
6 DEUCE BIGALOW
7 DOOM
8 THE GHOST INSIDE
9 MY SASSY GIRL
10 DUBAI

SM CITY BICUTAN
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 ISPIRITISTA
3 THE GHOST INSIDE
4 DOMINO

SM VALENZUELA
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 ISPIRITISTA
3 THE GHOST INSIDE
4 DOOM

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
1 DEUCE BIGALOW
2 LORD OF WAR
3 DOOM
4 FOUR BROTHERS
5 DOMINO
6 ISPIRITISTA
7 LEGEND OF ZORRO
8 ISPIRITISTA
9 MY SASSY GIRL
10 THE GHOST INSIDE
11 LAND OF THE DEAD
12 RESERVED

SM CITY SOUTHMALL
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 ISPIRITISTA
3 DOOM
4 DOMINO
5 WAITING
6 DUBAI
7 FOUR BROHTERS
8 THE GHOST INSIDE
9 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
10 MY SASSY GIRL

SM SUPERCENTER SUCAT
1 WAITING
2 DOMINO
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 LEGEND OF ZORRO

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 WAITING
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 MY SASSY GIRL
5 THE GHOST INSIDE
6 DOOM
7 FOUR BROTHERS
8 DOMINO

SM CITY MANILA
1 DOOM
2 LEGEND OF ZORRO
3 MY SASSY GIRL
4 FOUR BROTHERS
5 DOMINO
6 LEGEND OF ZORRO
7 ISPIRITISTA
8 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
9 ISPIRITISTA
10 DEUCE BIGALOW
11 WAITING
12 THE GHOST INSIDE

SM CINEMA SAN LAZARO
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 DOMINO
3 WAITING
4 DOOM
5 ISPIRITISTA
6 ISPIRITISTA

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1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
3 DOOM
4 ISPIRITISTA
5 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
6 ISPIRITISTA

SM CITY BAGUIO
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 INTO THE BLUE
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 DOOM

SM CITY BACOOR
1 WAITING
2 DUBAI
3 LEGEND OF ZORRO
4 ISPIRITISTA
5 DOMINO
6 ISPIRITISTA
7 MY SASSY GIRL
8 DOOM

SM CITY MARILAO
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 TRANSPORTER 2

SM CITY DASMARINAS
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 INTO THE BLUE
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS

SM CITY LUCENA
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 LORD OF WAR
3 INTO THE BLUE
4 ISPIRITISTA

SM CITY BATANGAS
1 LORD OF WAR
2 ISPIRITISTA
3 LEGEND OF ZORRO
4 A SOUND OF THUNDER

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

SM CITY CEBU
1 DOOM
2 LEGEND OF ZORRO
3 TRANSPORTER 2
4 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
5 TRUTH ABOUT LOVE
6 WAITING
7 ISPIRITISTA
8 DEUCE BIGALOW

SM CITY ILOILO
1 LORD OF WAR
2 RESERVED
3 WALLACE AND GROMIT
4 ISPIRITISTA
5 LEGEND OF ZORRO
6 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
7 RESERVED
8 BLADE OF ROSE

SM CITY DAVAO
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
3 ISPIRITISTA
4 ONE MISSED CALL 2
5 WALLACE AND GROMIT
6 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
1 LEGEND OF ZORRO
2 WALLACE AND GROMIT
3 INTO THE BLUE
4 LORD OF WAR

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R-13

2 THE LEGEND OF ZORRO
11:40, 2:30, 5:20, 8:10, 11:00
GP

3 DOMINO
11:40, 2:25, 5:10, 7:55, 10:40
R-13

4 WAITING
1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00
R-13

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THE FOUR BROTHERS 1:05 / 3:50 / 6:35 / 9:20	DEUCE BIGALOW 2 1:30 / 3:30 / 5:30 / 7:30 / 9:30
WAITING 12:40 / 2:50 / 5:00 / 7:10 / 9:20	DOOM 1:30 / 4:00 / 6:30 / 9:00
THE GHOST INSIDE 12:30 / 2:40 / 4:50 / 7:00 / 9:10	ISPIRITISTA 1:40 / 4:10 / 6:40 / 9:10
DOMINO 12:50 / 3:40 / 6:30 / 9:20	THE 40 YR OLD VIRGIN 1:30 / 4:00 / 6:30 / 9:00

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① ISPIRITISTA
12:30 / 3:00 / 5:30 / 8:00

② THE LEGEND OF ZORRO
12:00 R2 / 2:25 / 5:10 / 7:55

③ THE FOUR BROTHERS
12:20 / 3:05 / 5:50 / 8:35

④ THE GHOST INSIDE
12:10 R3 / 1:35 / 3:45 / 5:55 / 8:05

⑤ DOMINO
12:00 / 2:50 / 5:40 / 8:30

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Nov. 6 Sunday	GINEBRA vs AIR 21	4:10 pm
	ALASKA vs TALK N TEXT	6:40 pm
Nov. 9 Wed.	SAN MIGUEL vs STA LUCIA	4:40 pm
	COCA COLA vs PUREFOODS	7:25 pm

CENTER EVENTS

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Palos Verdes wrests lead

DAVAO—RANCHO Palos Verdes launched its drive to wrest overall control by taking the lead in Group II and forging a tie in the two other divisions at the start Friday of the Mindanao leg of the Sta. Lucia Golf Tour 2005 it is hosting.

The defending champions opened up a six-point cushion over Summit Point Team 2 with the quartet of Ronald Galicia, Eduardo Wee, Jessie Tan and Andrew Bautista pooling 133 points.

The Rancho Palos Verdes contingent also share the lead with Alta Vista 1 in Group I and was in a three-way tie for the top spot with two Eagle Ridge squads in Group II.

Marcelino Alfonso, Paul Larrabaster, Jaime Tan Sr. and Anthony Sasin scored 148 to match the output of first leg winner Alta Vista (Carl Almario, Joseph Stevens, Enrico Solon and Edito Tirol).

In Group III, Palos Verdes mainstays Arsenio Lim, Ramon Teodoro Garcia, Ricardo Elizagaque and Alejandro Dayot Jr. conspired for 110 to join Eagle Ridge 6 (Amelio Pareja, Marthy del Rosario, Anthony del Rosario and Roberto Tapawan) and Eagle Ridge 4 (Michael Tan, Francis Villafuerte, Elpidio Ong and Robert Tan).

Bunye shines

BING BUNYE OF CANlubang took the low gross award while Titos Almendral of Southwoods bagged the low net title in the recent fourth Senior Care Fellowship at the North course of the Canlubang Golf and Country Club in Laguna. Bunye had a gross of 74 to share the limelight with Almendral, who made 64, among the bets from the Senior Care Program of the Federation of Golf Clubs in the Philippines. Division winners were Rolando Ramirez of Eagle Ridge in Classic (55-59), Neil Craig of Eastridge in Elite (60-64), Ken Onda of Southwoods in Statesmen (65-69) and Eddie Genato of Alabang in Vintage (70 and above). Onda also helped Manila Southwoods 2 clinch the team championship.

OPENS NOVEMBER 9

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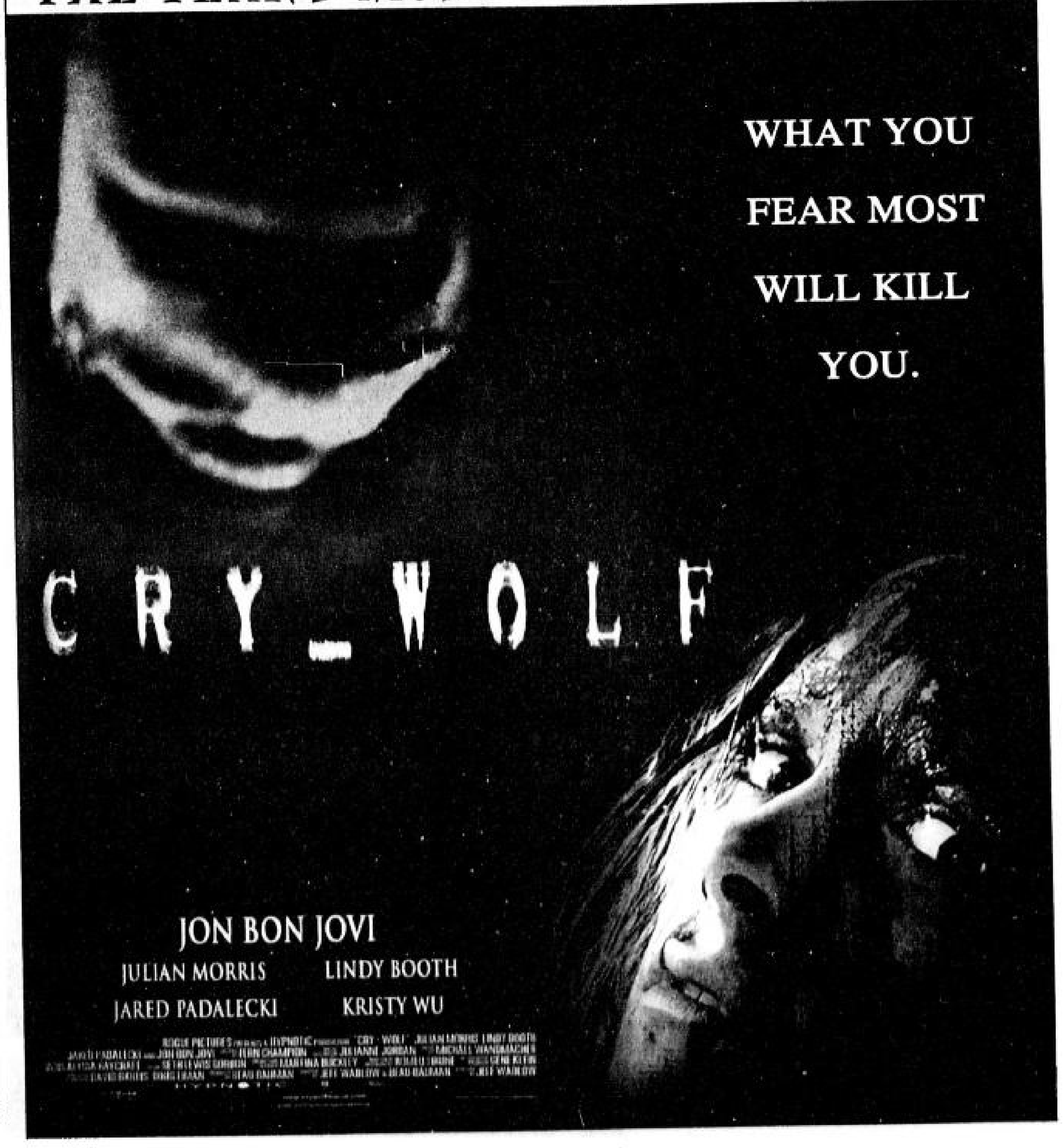


Anton joins Taipei meet

TOURING CAR RACING champion Carlos Anton will represent the Philippines in the 2005 Taiwan Auto Gymkhana Grand Prix set Nov. 12 and 13 in Taipei. Anton was chosen by the Automobile Association of the Philippines, through Jun Espino, as RP's official bet together with Slalom champion Noel Rivera in this Asian Zone event pitting the top two drivers from nine participating Asian countries. "It's a real honor for me to represent the Philippines in this event," said Anton, who also won in an SCCA Autocross event in Guam using a Subaru STI last May. "I am confident our team will do well in Taiwan."

Mental lapse pulls Sy to 4th in grid

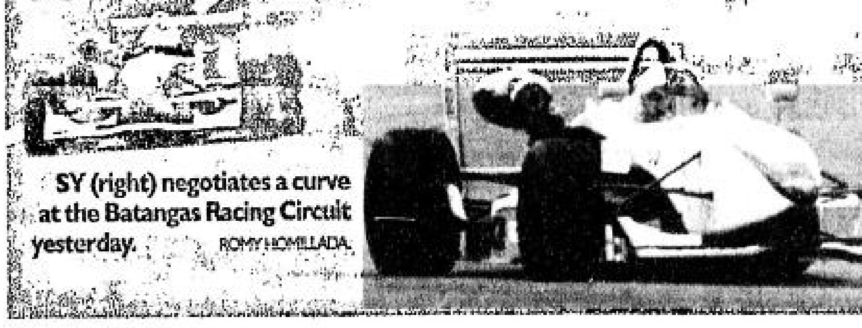
By Marc Anthony Reyes

ROSARIO, BATANGAS—TYSON SY, THE Filipino racing hero named after the former undisputed heavyweight boxing champ, suffered a crushing blow yesterday in his bid to win the overall championship of the 2005 Asian Formula 3.

The 18-year-old tried to win the qualifying round early and paid dearly for it, ending up no better than fourth in the grid for the penultimate race of the season at the Batangas Racing Circuit here today.

Sy, second overall in points after a golden double in Sentul, Indonesia, forced his car in the early laps and caused it to under-steer throughout qualifying.

He now faces tough odds in the race proper that will see Irishman John O'Hara starting from the pole with overall leader Ananda Mikola of Indonesia and Briton James Winslow taking off as second and third, respectively.



SY (right) negotiates a curve at the Batangas Racing Circuit yesterday. ROMY HOMILLADA

The winner of each race gains 20 points, the second placer 15, third 12, fourth 10 and fifth 8 points.

And with 101 total points, Sy needs to win the last two races and hope that Mikola encounters trouble bad enough to deny him a finish better than fifth place.

"I was pushing too hard in the first few laps which made my tires wear off," said Sy, who will try to overhaul the 26-point lead of Mikola. "So I tried to slow down for two laps, just like cruising by, which yielded better times for me."

Sy's best lap was the seventh where he timed one minute, 27.685 seconds in covering 3.4 kilometers.

However, Sy's camp claimed that the Filipino bet is racing with an inferior chassis with the size of .01 compared to those used by his foreign rivals here which is .04 that creates a remarkable difference in the race.

But Mikola quickly disputed it, saying .01 chassis provide better handling especially for the many slow bends of the BRC.

In fact, top qualifier O'Hara used .01 yesterday, shifting from the .04 he used last March here where he placed fourth.

O'Hara's best clocking was 1:27.496 in the 11th lap, while Mikola ran fastest in the 12th with 1:27.511 despite his claim that he had a hard time adjusting to F3 since he was racing in F1 simultaneously.

"I want to win," said Mikola, who picked Sy as his toughest contender though he didn't discount the fact that Winslow—just one point behind Sy—can pull off an upset.

"I will have to compete in my own race against Tyson. I don't expect to get any help from him either. We got our own race. I'm pretty determined to beat Tyson," said Winslow, who practically gave up the fight for the overall championship.

Today's races, sponsored by Addict Mobile, PLDT myDSL, Boysen Paints, Yokohama Tires and Lima Hotel, will be aired live over Studio 23. Racing fans can log on www.asianf3.net and www.mypad.net for regular updates of AF3. The media partners of the races are Wave89.1, Magic 89.9, K-Lite 103.5, Jam 88.3, 99.5 RT, Celebrity Connect Magazine and Manila Bulletin.

Philtobo races up

By Edwin Villanueva, *Contributor*

REAL SPICY CARRIED THE LOAD FOR THE formidable Hermie Esguerra Stable last year when he won as a 2-year-old.

He'll be back to essay the same role again when he competes in the Vicente Puyat Cup 3-Year-Old Colts, one of the seven explosive events reeling off today during the 6th Philtobo Grand Championship Day at the Santa Ana Park.

The son of Real Quiet out of Spicy Tale and bred by Esguerra himself, is heavily favored to wipe out the opposition made up of stablemate At All Cost, Golden Fantasy and Smokin' Red in the 1,600-meter contest.

Also given the similar tag as odds-on pick is another Esguerra galloper, the in-form Euro Bucks, who is clashing against Full of Fury, Xtreme Heat and Unrivaled in the Philtobo 3-Year-Old Fillies also set over the mile distance.

The present crop of promising 2-year-old chargers likewise try to take the limelight as Don Exequiel, Dixie the Younger and Manila's Gem serve as chief protagonists in the Juvenile Colts while the unbeaten Special Edition tries to stretch her winning run in the Juvenile Fillies.

Also expected to provide the fireworks are the confrontation between champions Empire King and Red Star Rising in the PGMA Unity Cup Classic as well as the Magic Millions Cup matchup pitting Speed Advantage against the lightning-quick import Golden Link.

Rounding out the main attractions to be disputed in the country's biggest, single-day horseracing spectacle staged by the prestigious Philippine Thoroughbred. Owners and Breeders Organization is the Pioneer Wind Blown Sprint Cup headed by another Esguerra hopeful, Moab.

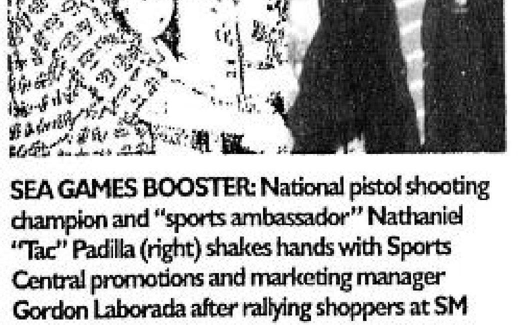
Presidential daughter Luli Macapagal Arroyo will be the guest of honor in the event sponsored by the Philracom, PCSO, Manilabank, Pioneer Insurance, Magic Millions Ltd. Australia and Philippine Racing Club.

Philtobo president Bienvenido "Nonoy" Niles Jr. is gracing the affair which will be shown on Sports Plus cable channel on Nov. 14 at 8 p.m.

RACING TIPS

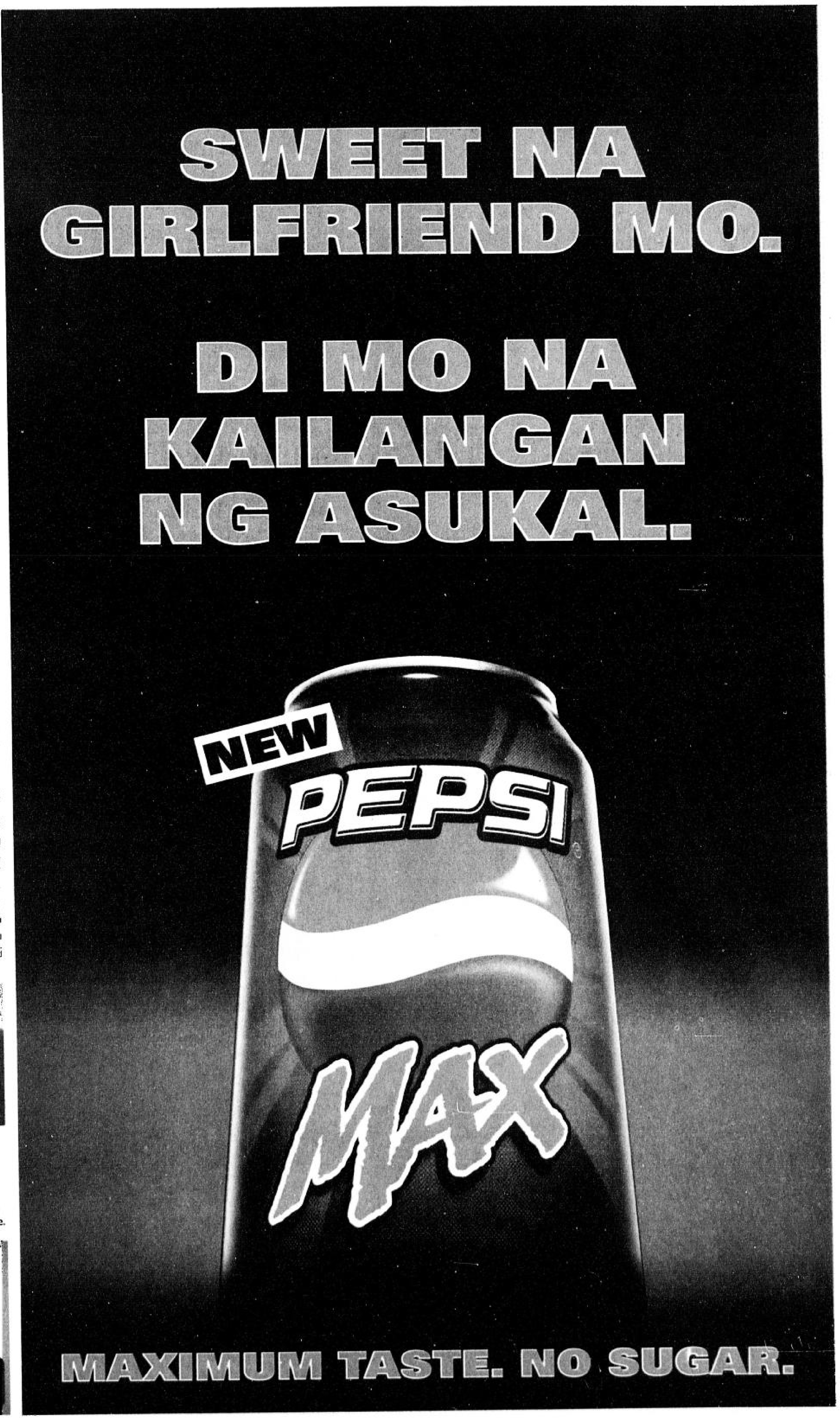
AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Euro Bucks 2. Extreme Heat
Race 2—1. Catwalk Pia 2. Perfect Storm 3. Queen of Diamonds 4. Glamour
Race 3—1. Real Spicy 2. Golden Fantasy
Race 4—1. Lord of All 2. Tango With Me 3. Shosh D Besh 4. Dark Desert
Race 5—1. Moab 2. Vivere 3. Speed Majesty
Race 6—1. Speed Advantage 2. Last Snip
Race 7—1. Cool Runnings 2. Cover Girl 3. Ocean Deep/Bulakeña
Race 8—1. Gigi Rodriguez 2. Lolita 3. Spectacular Play 4. Wear the Fox Hat
Race 9—1. Special Edition 2. Jet Suiter 3. Straight Free
Race 10—1. Stallone 2. Bumpy Johnson 3. Gold is Gold 4. Rosebud
Race 11—1. Dixe the Younger 2. Don Exequiel 3. Manila's Gem
Race 12—1. Empire King 2 Red Star Rising
Race 13—1. Tool Pusher 2 Strel-sand 3. Naughty 4 Bullish Dream 5. Carolina Belle
Race 14—1. Sugar Ray 2. Tell Henry 3. Top of D Line 4. Tactical Move/Simply Gold 5. Ichiro 6. She Jinsky


PINOY PANALO KA!

SEA GAMES BOOSTER: National pistol shooting champion and "sports ambassador" Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla (right) shakes hands with Sports Central promotions and marketing manager Gordon Laborada after rallying shoppers at SM Southmall in Las Piñas to support Filipino athletes and the coming 23rd Southeast Asian Games here.

21
days to go
Basta Pinoy. Posible.
Globe



Dream match pits Ateneo vs La Salle

THE PLAYERS WHO PLAYED BIG ROLES in adding to the aura of the Ateneo-La Salle rivalry don their blue and green jerseys anew as they battle it out in yet another grudge match featuring the two arch-enemies in the collegiate varsity basketball circuit.

The Ateneo-La Salle Dream Games '05 The Best of The Best basketball exhibition game kicks off Dec. 8 at the Araneta Coliseum, with past stars of both schools and their current standouts getting together in what is expected to add another chapter to their historic rivalry.

The event, organized by the Ateneo High School Class '81, the PBA and VDV Sports, will have two games.

The main event features PBA stars from both schools who will team up with present-day varsity players.

Ateneo's pros are Rich Alvarez, Paolo Bugia, Larry Fonacier, Wesley Gonzales, Olsen Racela, Rico Villanueva, Vince Hizon, and Jec Chia or Ranier Sison while present-day collegiate stars are LA Tenorio, JC Intal, Japeth Aguilar and Doug Kramer. Ateneo Coach is Chot Reyes.

La Salle's pros are Jun Limpot, Mark Telan, Don Allado, Mike Cortez, Mac Cuan, Ren-ren Ritualo, Mark Cardona and Willie Wilson while the current varsity stars are Joseph Yeo, Rico Maierhofer, Jun-jun Cabatu and Ryan Araña. La Salle coach is Yeng Guiao.

RACELA

The preliminary game is a Legends showdown, where Ateneo will b by former Olympian Felix Flores a by Virgil Villavicencio.

The teams will be made up of s ers from the 60's, seven from th seven from the 80's.

Ateneo will parade Chito Afabl pio, Tito Panlilio, Ogie Narvasa, N atico, Eric Reyes, Danny Francisc Lastimosa. The La Salle Legends i Eng Beng, Alex Marquez, Aldo Pe Velasco, Franz and Dindo Pumar Lago and Tonichi Yturri.

VDV Sports Chair Carlos (Bobo a La Salle and Ateneo alumnu

J-Ro two Korean,

OTSU, JAPAN—THE PHILIP nifer Rosales fired a 7-under 6 book a ticket to the champi and forge a three-way battle Sorenstam and South Korea's the Mizuno Classic.

Sorenstam remained in po record fifth straight victory in ment, birdieing the final two under 67 that left her a stroke

While Kim, who also shot seeking her first victory in her the LPGA Tour, world No. 1 S won eight times this season.

If Kim, who carded a first der 64, hopes to break her

Revisiti reminis at Alaba

AT TIMES, GOING BACK that's close to your hea haven't seen in ages ma the eyes.

I am that kind, fellas.

Thus, in a golf round journalists and buddies lik lareal, and new-found fri Lacson and Jessie Varela a Thursday (Nov. 3, thanks M nandez), it seemed I travel time tunnel. Occasion wa tournament to precede th Cup set for tomorrow, No bang.

As I trudged throug plains, slopes and undul that day, the memory lamented Danny Floro k me—happily, that is.

It didn't matter whethe or birdie on any hole that that I was there was, seem mattered.

It was at Alabang w Floro, the well-loved Cris manager, used to host spor golf round—mostly unsch just one telephone call (n yet back then as this was any day of the week thro right hand man, Larry Ga come running—Ding M Tacujan, Jun Engracia, Er Jake Ayson, Gov. Manny P Bancod. With a friend like fool would refuse his invit such a nice guy and it wo hard to find one who co mate his traits that were a cally on humility and gent

Even my caddy (Nora) membered Danny fondly. Filipino: "I have yet to m person as humble and as Danny Floro."

And surprise, surpris round, who did I see stand the locker room?

Dave Floro, the son of himself.

"Boy, it's been years si you," said Dave, he with eyes and young-looking nice to see you again, brot

We hugged each oth though we were really lo ers. Dave has been the o nection for me to keep memory alive, not to m sisters Tess (the super-kind Balaguer) Sheba and Vale tologist—all very gentle, t

Since Danny Floro die 1995, I've not played Alab til last Thursday.

A car buff since his teen lection of automobiles ca of Donald Trump.

"Let's meet up some tim a Ferrari owner whose son with Sta. Elena), is the fa

SHANG CINEPLEX

① FOUR BROTHERS
11.20, 2.00, 4.40, 7.20, 10.00
MTRCB: R-13

② THE LEGEND OF ZORRO
11.10, 1.55, 4.40, 7.25, 10.10
MTRCB: GP

③ WAITING
12.40, 3.00, 5.20, 7:40, 10:00
MTRCB: R-13

④ DOMINO
12.55, 3.40, 6.25, 9:10
MTRCB: R-13

PREMIERE THEATRE THE LEGEND OF ZORRO
12.45, 3.30, 6.15, 9.00 MTRCB: GP
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

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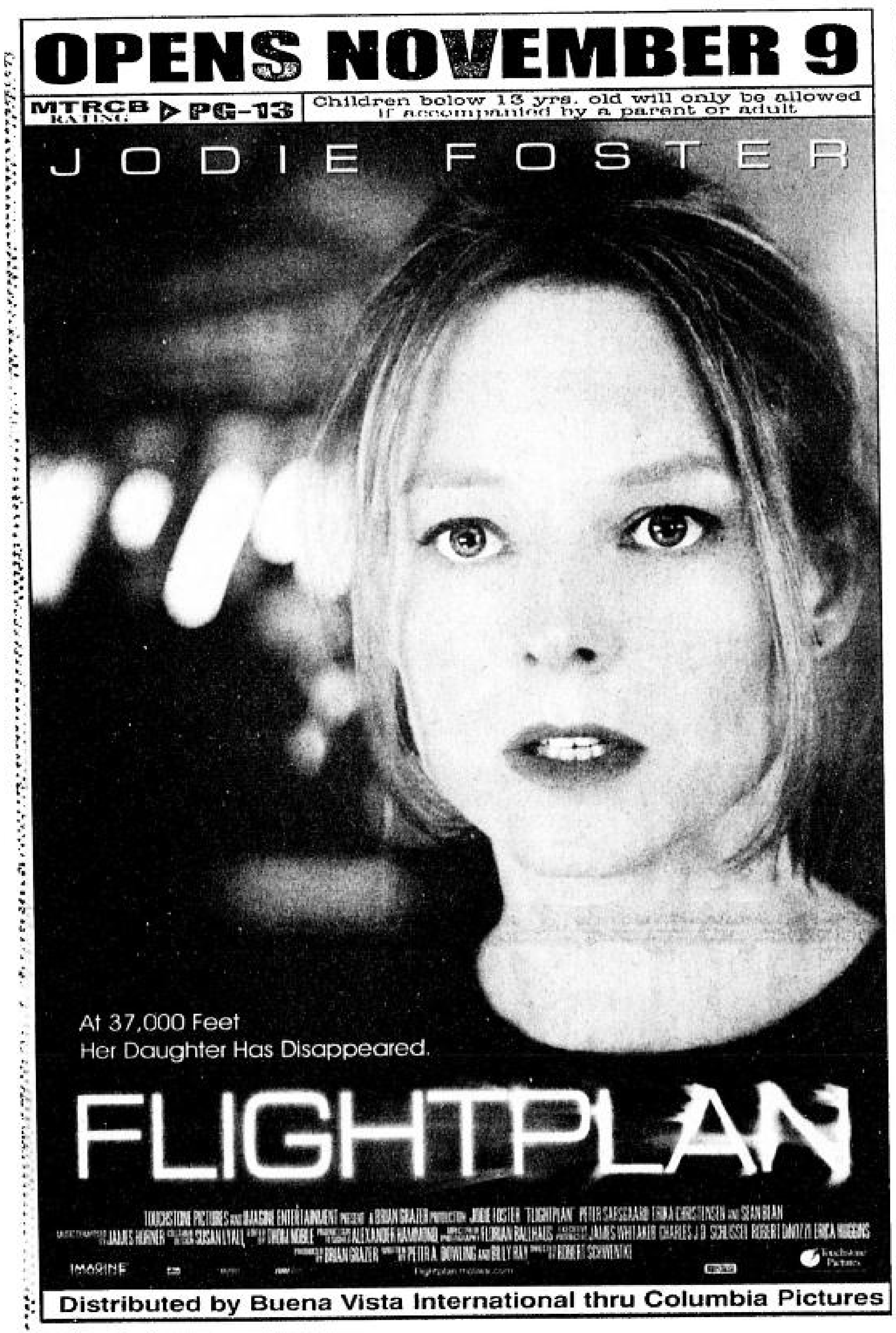
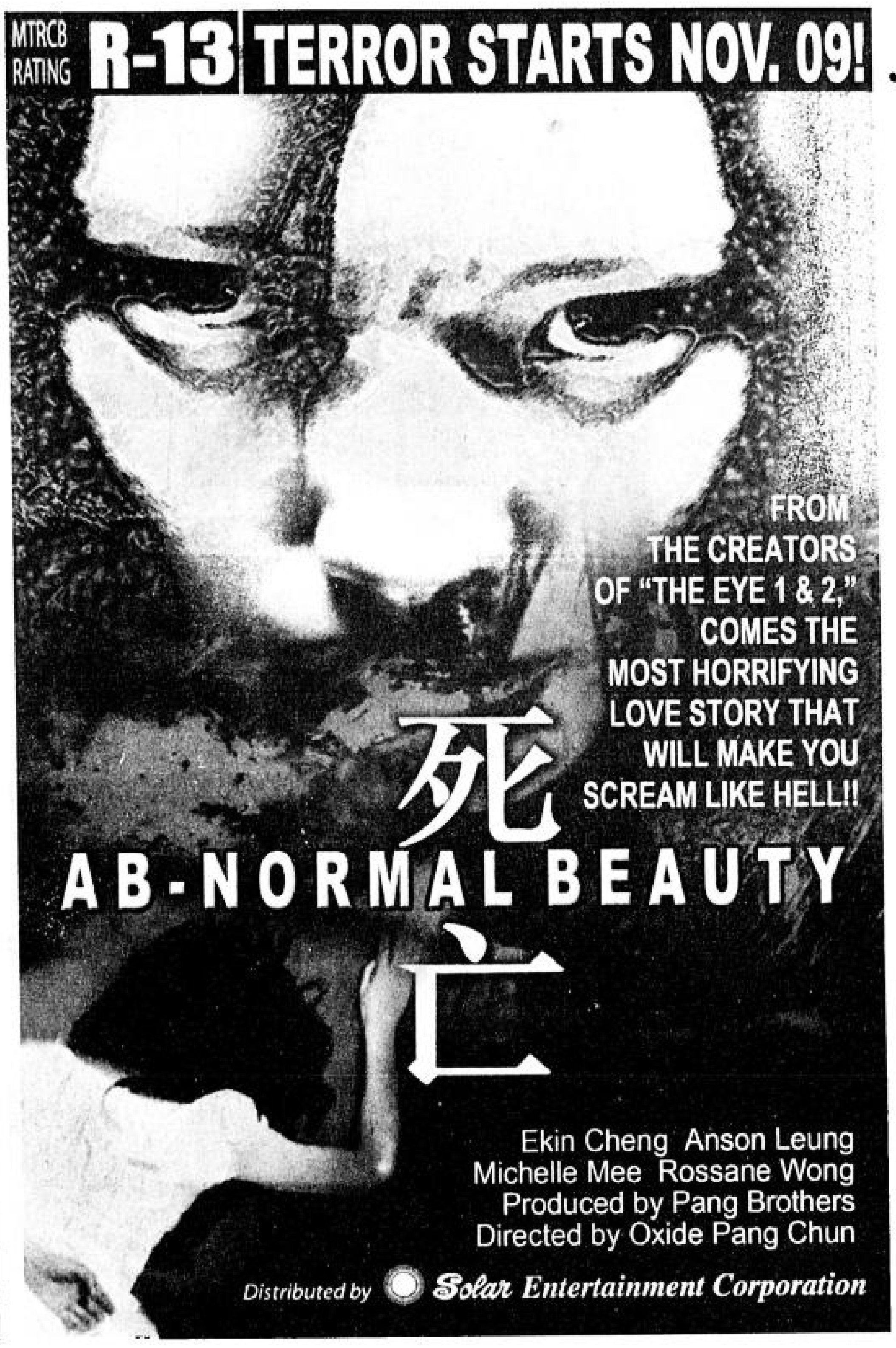
DOMINO R13 2:20,5:00,7:40,10:20	THE LEGEND OF ZORRO GP 12:50,3:30,6:10,8:50	WAITING R13 12:00,2:00,4:00, 6:00,8:00,10:00
FOUR BROTHERS R13 1:10,3:30,5:50,8:10,10:30	SHARKBOY AND LAVAGIRL - GP 1:25,3:35 DOOM R13 5:40,7:50	THE LEGEND OF ZORRO GP 1:50,4:30,7:10,9:50


OPENS NOVEMBER 9
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
JODIE FOSTER
At 37,000 Feet
Her Daughter Has Disappeared.
FLIGHTPLAN
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures


MTRCB RATING
R-13
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FROM THE CREATORS OF "THE EYE 1 & 2," COMES THE MOST HORRIFYING LOVE STORY THAT WILL MAKE YOU SCREAM LIKE HELL!!
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AB-NORMAL BEAUTY
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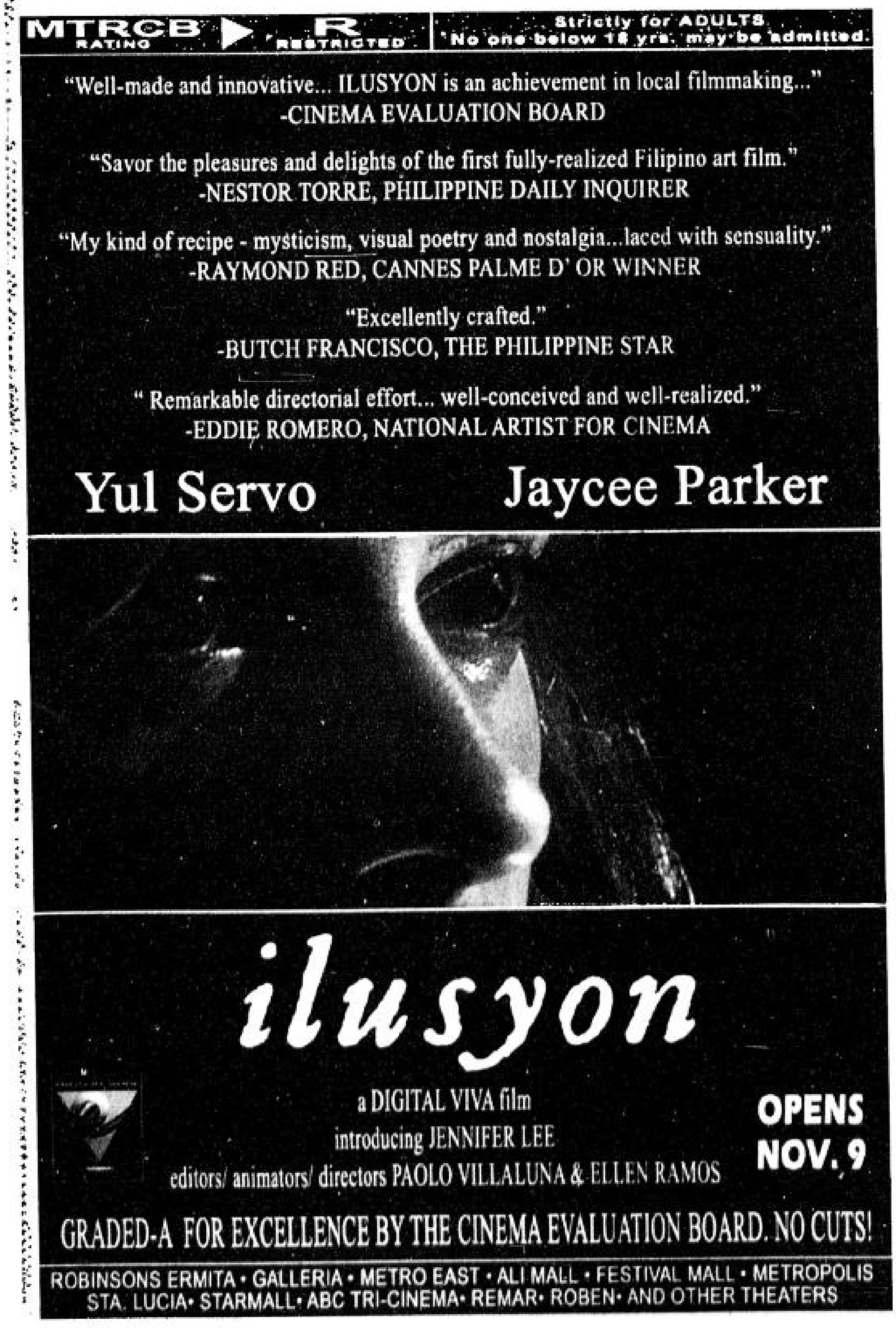
Ekin Cheng Anson Leung
Michelle Mee Rossane Wong
Produced by Pang Brothers
Directed by Oxide Pang Chun
Distributed by Solar Entertainment Corporation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Yul Servo Jaycee Parker

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introducing JENNIFER LEE
editors/ animators/ directors PAOLO VILLALUNA & ELLEN RAMOS
OPENS NOV. 9

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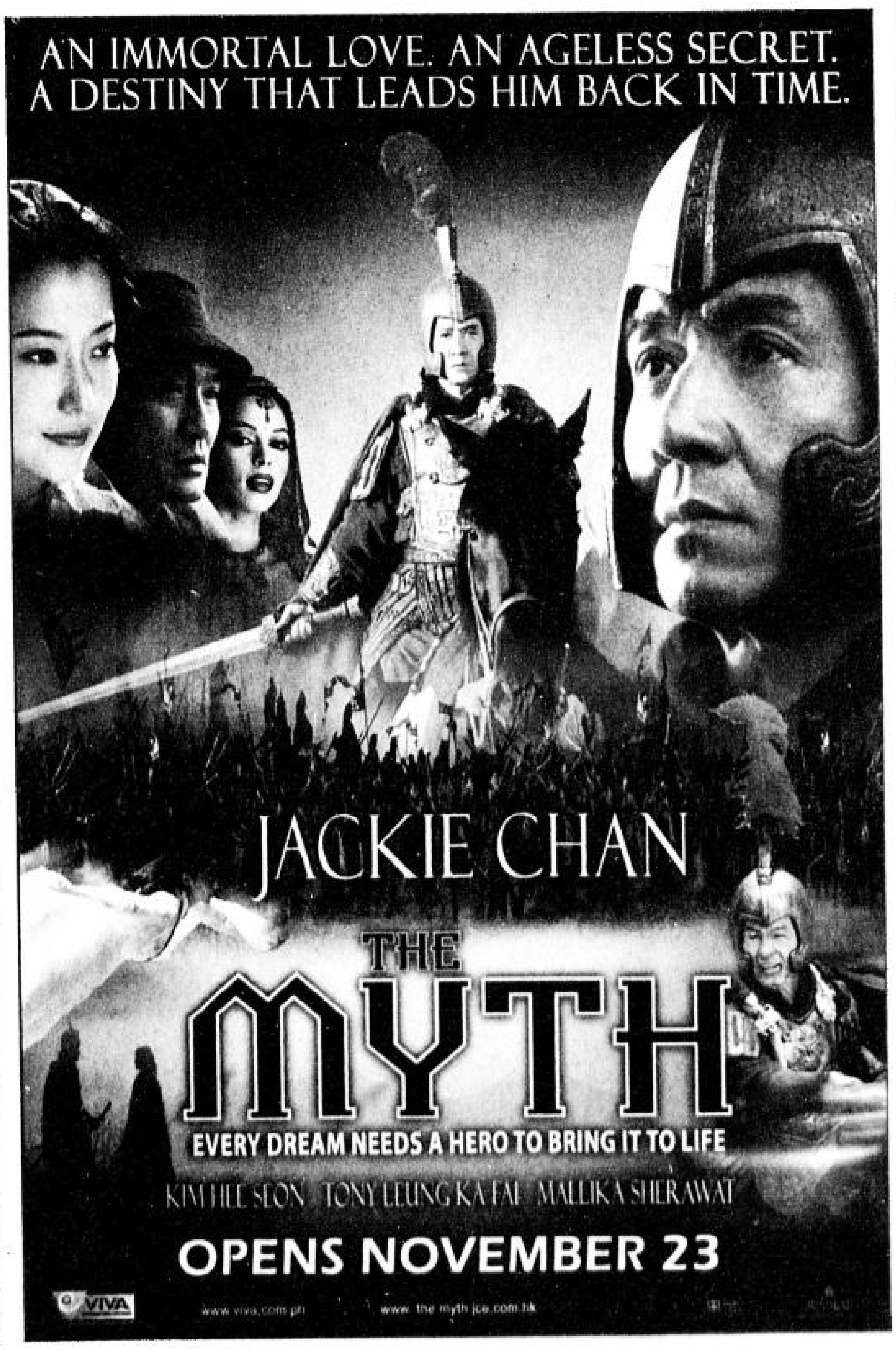
AN IMMORTAL LOVE. AN AGELESS SECRET.
A DESTINY THAT LEADS HIM BACK IN TIME.
JACKIE CHAN
THE MYTH
EVERY DREAM NEEDS A HERO TO BRING IT TO LIFE
KIM HEE SEON TONY LEUNG KA FAI MALLIKA SHERAWAT
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ng) Velez,
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Dream Games Project Director, guarantees that the event will lure diehards of both schools to the Big Dome. He calls it D-Day in December at the Dome.

"There is always a huge motivation for both schools to win whenever they meet," said Velez. "Ateneo lost to La Salle thrice in the UAAP this season and is looking for revenge. On the other hand, La Salle would like to erase any doubt of its mastery over its rival school."

Velez has promoted two previous matches between the two schools. In 1975, he produced the first La Salle-Ateneo Dream Game. The second one took place four years later.

PBA commissioner Noli Eala, who attended La Salle Green Hills High School and Ateneo for his undergraduate and law studies, said the league is fully supporting the event. For ticket reservations, call 8174554 and 8453125.

Hamilton lifts Pistons; Nets thump Raptors

HAMILTON AP

BOSTON—RICHARD HAMILTON HIT A SIX-meter (20-foot) jump shot with no time remaining Friday to give Detroit an 82-81 victory over Boston.

Tayshaun Prince found Hamilton just inside the 3-point arc with the inbounds pass and Hamilton got the shot off as time expired.

"It's fun, it's exciting, especially in somebody else's building when everybody is yelling and screaming, thinking they have got the win," Hamilton said. "Then it's quiet. I get a bigger thrill out of that than anything."

The Celtics have lost seven of their last eight against the Pistons, dating to the start of the 2003-04 season.

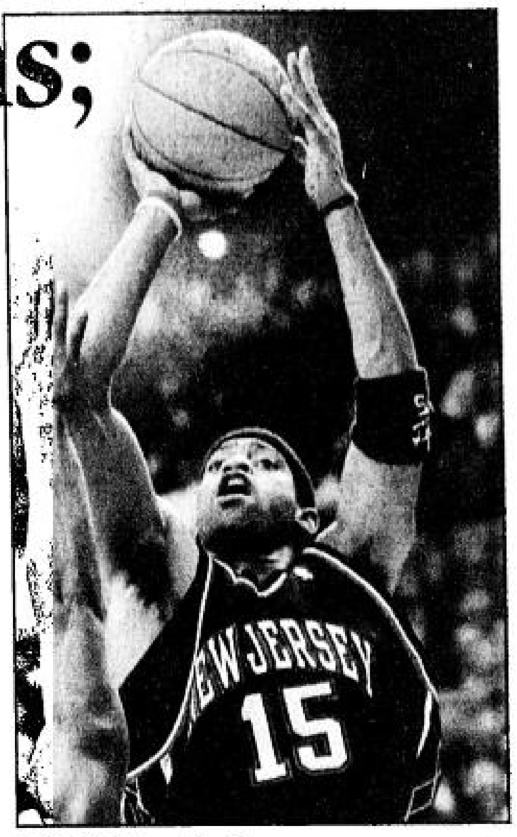
Hamilton led the Pistons with 26 points, while Chauncey Billups scored 16 and Rasheed Wallace added 15. Ben Wallace had 15 rebounds for Detroit.

In Toronto, Richard Jefferson had 35 points and 11 rebounds to lead the New Jersey Nets past the Raptors, 102-92.

Vince Carter added 20 points in his second regular-season game in Toronto since being traded to the Nets last December. Fans booed the six-time All-Star every time he touched the ball.

Rookie Jose Calderon had 20 points and seven assists for the Raptors, who trailed by as many as 24 points in the third quarter. *AP*

Other results: Memphis trips Orlando, 94-85; Charlotte drubs Philadelphia 110-93; Washington dumps New York, 86-75; San Antonio crushes Cleveland, 102-76; Denver manhandles Portland, 107-68; Utah beats Golden State, 91-85; Seattle clips Minnesota, 107-102 in overtime and the LA Clippers bump off Atlanta, 92-77.



CARTER: Booed by fans REUTERS

behind, battles Annika for title

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week, she's going to have to work for it.

"She'll be hungry tomorrow and just might pull it off, but I'm hungry too," said Sorenstam, who finished her round with consecutive birdies to sit one shot behind Kim at 13-under for the tournament.

Kim, who played in the same group with Sorenstam on Saturday in warm, sunny conditions at Seta Golf Course, will tee off with the Swede in the final pairing again Sunday. The 25-year-old native of Chunchon seems undaunted by the pressure of having the best player in the women's game nipping at her heels.

Rosales, who opened with a first-round 67, is alone at third place. *AP*

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SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

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child of Boss Danny.

When Cynthia Matias approached me at the luncheon table during the awarding ceremonies, she said to me: "You still remember me?"

I will forget Imelda, if not Evita, but not Cynthia, a fixture at Alabang.

Alabang does not only remind me of Danny Floro but also of other special people there like Taling Santos, the "tire man" that staked four Good Year tires as prize if I parred No. 4 (I did in 1991 but the tires have yet to arrive), the likewise lamented Rene Cayetano, the distinguished senator who passed away a while back, and Ed Gaddi.

Oh, yes, Ed Gaddi.

He was an Alabang director and a corporate secretary of Alabang, whose impeccable credentials recently landed him a seat in the Orchard board elections when a virtual "outsider" like him winning a director's post there was almost next to impossible.

A birthday boy last Oct. 31 like my bilas, Los Angeles-based Jun Magturo (the hubby of Ofelia F. Juvida), I expect my lawyer-buddy Ed Gaddi to institute much-needed reforms at Orchard, venue of the prestigious Johnnie Walker Classic in 1995 won by Fred Couples. It was Danny Floro who made Ed a member of the 20-year-old Maddogan Golf Club in the early '90s.

Let the fireworks begin, *Pareng* Ed. And make Boss Danny proud of you all the more.

***

Reader Jason Mathew Garcia of 2403 Muñoz St., San Andres Bukid, Manila, wrote to say Asi Taulava of Talk 'N Text is a Filipino as "has already been established fair and square in court—three different courts, to be exact."

The information, if true, should make us all happy.

Further, I apologize for any hurt that I may have caused you, Sir, in a previous piece about Fil-foreigners in the PBA. Please remember that I do not have any ill will on Asi, or any Fil-foreigner for that matter, as your letter seemed to suggest. In fact, you can ask Asi about how our relationship was during the 2002 Busan Asian Games—I'd say very warm to a fault, yet professional all the way.

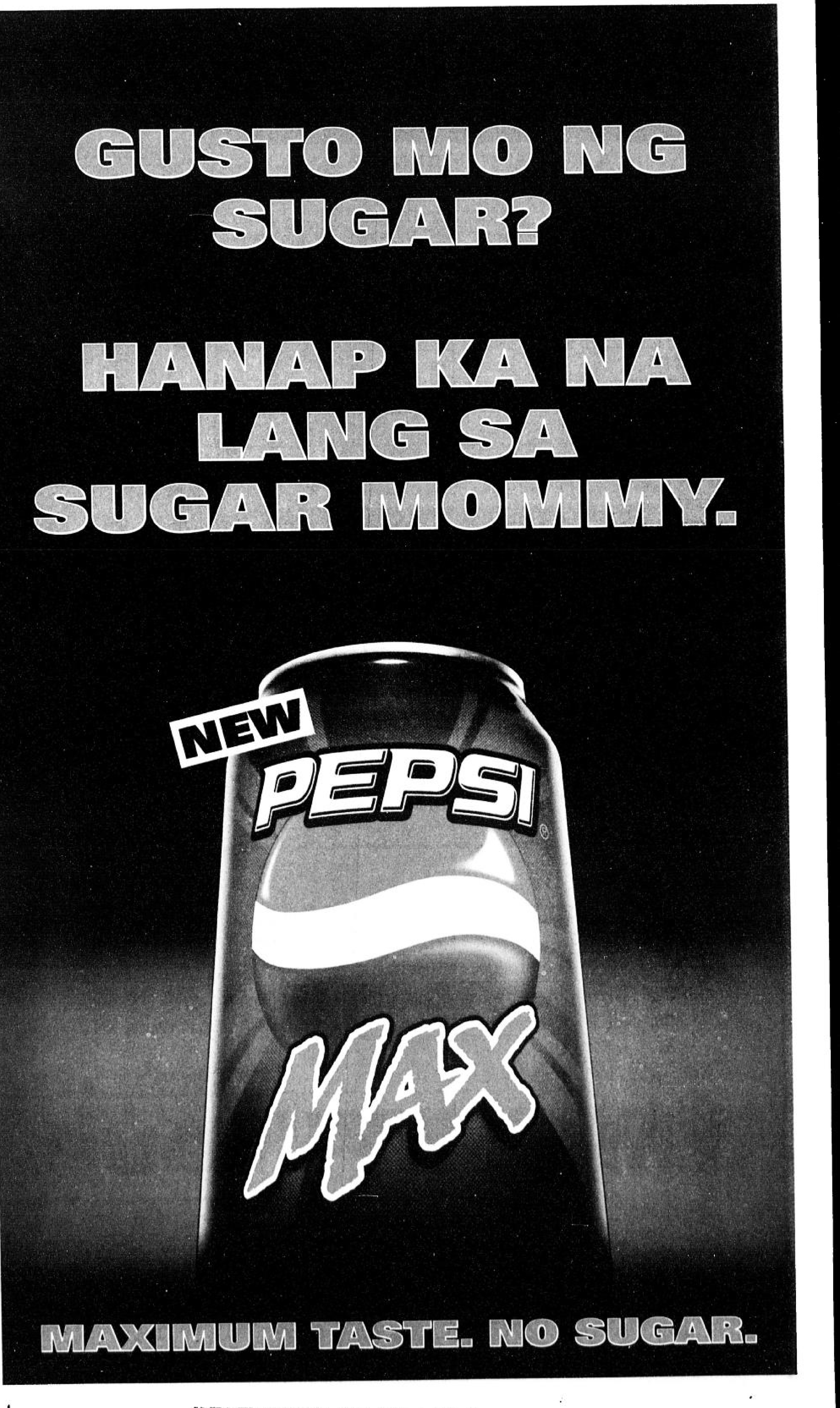
More power, Sir.

***

FASTBREAK. Birthday greetings to dear friends Eugene Torre and Bobong Velez (Nov. 4), my *insan* Wali Estrada and trivia king Bong Barrameda (Nov. 1), my brothers Kuya Vicente (Nov. 7) and Kuya Onie (Nov. 10), and my counsel nonpareil Boni M. Sison (Nov. 30).

***

E-mail: menju@pldtdsl.net



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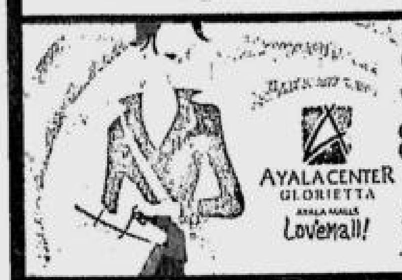

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See leaflets for details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A1-483, Series of 2005

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
Ansons Appliances Exhibit November 2 to 16, 2005	**AV Surfer** October 31 to November 15 **Christmas Serenade w/ Afinity** Nov. 2 , 9, 16, 23 & 30	**DSWD's Regional Children's Contest** November 8

AYALA GREENBELT

Tree Lighting Ceremony
November 10, 2005 - Greenbelt 3 Lobby
Anton Ramos & The Phil. Philharmonic Orchestra Show
November 12 to 13, 2005 - Greenbelt 3 Park

GREENBELT Onstage

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents - MAN OF LA MANCHA - The Musical
at REP's GLOBE THEATER
November 11 to December 18, 2005
For inquiries, please call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM

Registration for Art Workshops now on-going at Ayala Museum
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29.
Online registration at www.ayalamuseum.org

AYALA CINEMAS

AYALA CINEMAS

THX

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729 7777

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
G1 GLORIETTA 1	FOUR BROTHERS	LEGEND OF ZORRO	DOMINO	ISPIRITISTA			
G4 GLORIETTA 4	WAITING	DOMINO	THX LEGEND OF ZORRO 2 00, 4 50, 7 40, 10 30 GUARANTEED SEATS	DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO	THE 40 YR. OLD VIRGIN	FOUR BROTHERS	ISPIRITISTA
GB1 GREENBELT 1	LEGEND OF ZORRO 12:30, 3:15, 6:00, 8:45	CINEMANILA For inquiries, call 750-4180 to 81					
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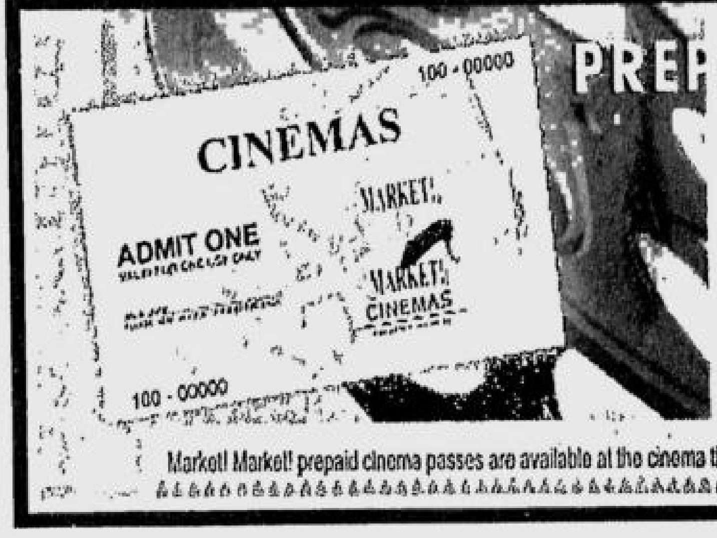

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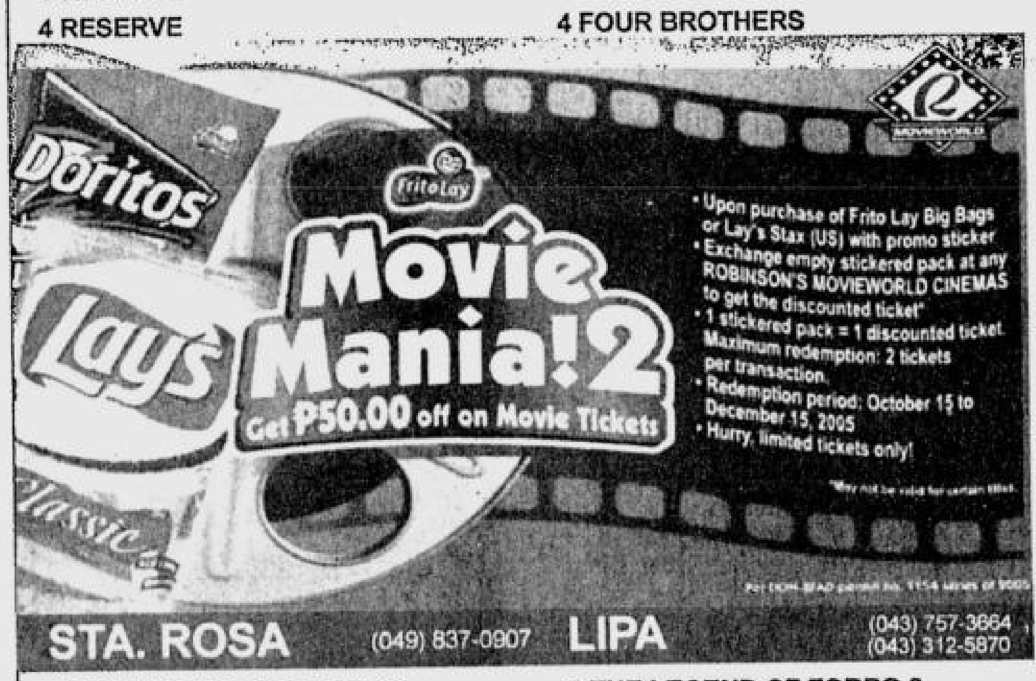

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QC, Centro post sweep

By Musong R. Castillo

QUEZON CITY AND CENTRO ATLETICO swept their respective groups yesterday to barge into the quarterfinals of the Battle of the Courts: National Interclub Badminton Championship Year 2 at the Rockwell tent.

Defending champion The Zone split its two eliminations matches but marched on like Group I mate Quezon City just the same. Traditional powerhouse Valle Verde also made it to the next round.

Centro and Valle Verde provided a lot of excitement in the first day of the national finals, battling to a two-hour and 35-minute contest which was clinched by the mixed team of Dan Astillero and Gina Flores, 11-15, 15-8, 15-9, over the Ken Torre and Dina Guerrero combine.

That win gave Centro a 2-0 card for top seeding in Group II, where it will clash with either Smash Ville of Davao or the Family Badminton Center squad.

Quezon City and The Zone also slugged it out to a tie after the women's and men's matches, respectively. Adrain Co and Elaine La'O sealed the match for QC by winning the last six points of the first set and zooming to a 14-4 lead in the second of a 15-8, 15-6 victory over Lenny Dionisio and JD de Jesus.

Alabang held the Group IV lead after defeating Smash Ville of Davao and Peregrine also toted a 1-0 card for Group III control heading into the late matches last night.

The formal opening ceremonies and other side-events will be held today before the knockout matches take place.

The parade of athletes ushers in hostilities at 11 a.m. followed by the welcome speech of INQUIRER president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, who will also hand out the prizes to the area champions and the runners-up.

INQUIRER Badminton, Mizuno and Smart: Simply Amazing are the main presenters of the country's most prestigious interclub badminton tournament.Citibank On-line, Unilever, Cebu Pacific and Rockwell Center are the major sponsors, Toyota Innova the official vehicle, Gerlfor Taraflex the official mat provider and Bellevue Manila, the official hotel.

SPORTSWATCH

Igan Cup tomorrow

THIS YEAR'S IGAN CUP, THE 4TH FUND RAISING golf tournament spearheaded by broadcaster Arnold Clavio, blasts off tomorrow at the East Ridge Golf Club in Binangonan, Rizal. Igan Foundation, founded by Clavio, organizes the event to raise funds for its activities, including putting up children's centers in hospitals called "Paraiso ng mga Igan." This year's beneficiary is the Tondo General Hospital in Tondo. Interested players may text or call Vilma at 0917-7956921.

Espiritu Cup golfest

FIVE FIRMS HAVE JOINED THE LIST OF SPONSORS of the first Ambassador Edgardo B. Espiritu Golf Cup slatedNov. 14 at the Manila Golf Club inside Forbes Park. Manila Bank, Datem Inc., Benny Fulgencio, Upsilon Sigma Phi's Batch '55 in North America and Batch '86 recently signed up to throw their support to the fund-raising event for scholarship at the uP. For details, contact Michael Montemayor at 0920-9619123 and 8077950 or email at montem@attglobal.net.

JVC badminton list

UNIVERSITY OF THE EAST AND SOUTHRIDGE-ALAbang have joined the JVC Inter-scholastics Badminton Championships set Nov. 17-23, bringing to 30 the number of teams vying for top honors in the college and high school divisions at PowerSmash and Glorietta. The organizing IMG said registration ends on Nov. 10. For details, contact 894-2995, 0917-8050702, 0917-8050601, 725-2568 and 0917-5288970. Entry forms are also available on www.jvcbadminton.com.

Estrellado top Stagfighter

POL ESTRELLADO OF LAGUNA BAGGED THE PREStigious Gentlemen Cockers Association of the Philippines (GCAP) Stagfighter of the Year award Friday night at the Pasay City Cockpit during the 5-stag championship derby presented by Complexor 3000. Estrellado's PE Sta. Cruz entry tallied 20 points in six GCAP derbies, nipping Super Pacman Sagupaan of Patrick Antonio who emerged runner-up with 18.5 points. Estrellado and Antonio received cash prizes and trophies.

Submission of weights

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES FOR THE BATANGAS Breeders Club (BBC) 3-stag derby is set today at the Araneta Coliseum. Entries will be accepted from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Contact 911-3101, 911-2928 or 0917-5274056 for details. The derby will start at 2 p.m. tomorrow with more than 90 fights lined up. BBC president Fred Katigbak said the event is part of the NFGB National Bakbakan 9-stag derby also set at Araneta.

Bakbakan eliminations

THE LAST TWO DAYS OF QUALIFYING ROUNDS FOR the National Federation of Gamefowl Breeders National Bakbakan 9-stag derby will be staged at the Araneta Coliseum on Nov. 12 and 14. Ricoy Palmares, NFGB president, said the 3-stag eliminations is open to breeders from groups affiliated with the NFGB.

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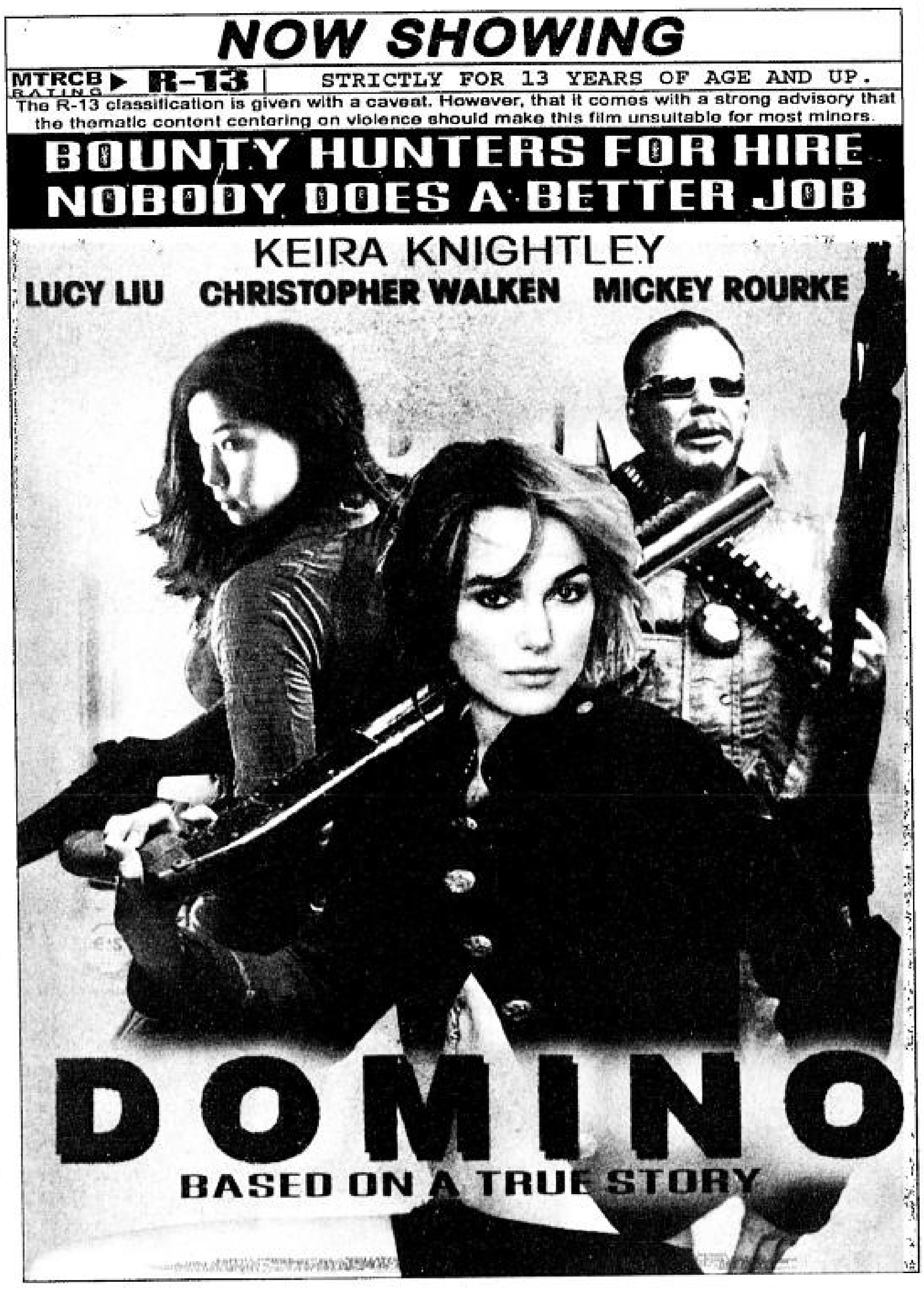
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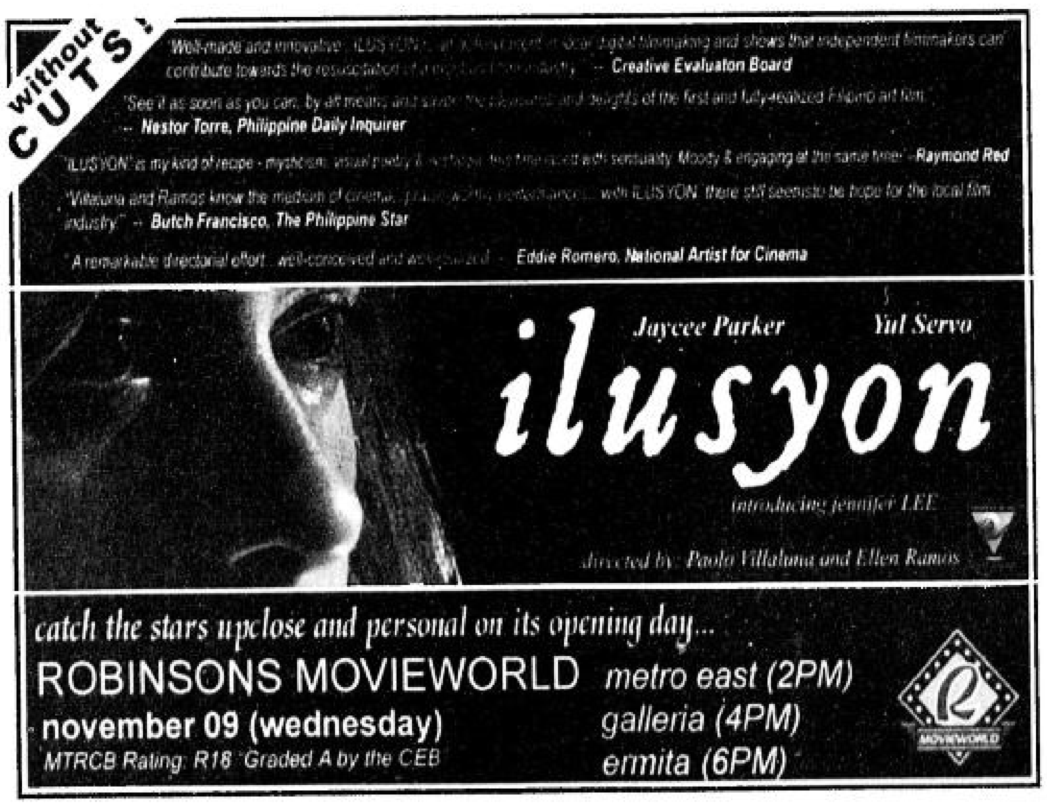
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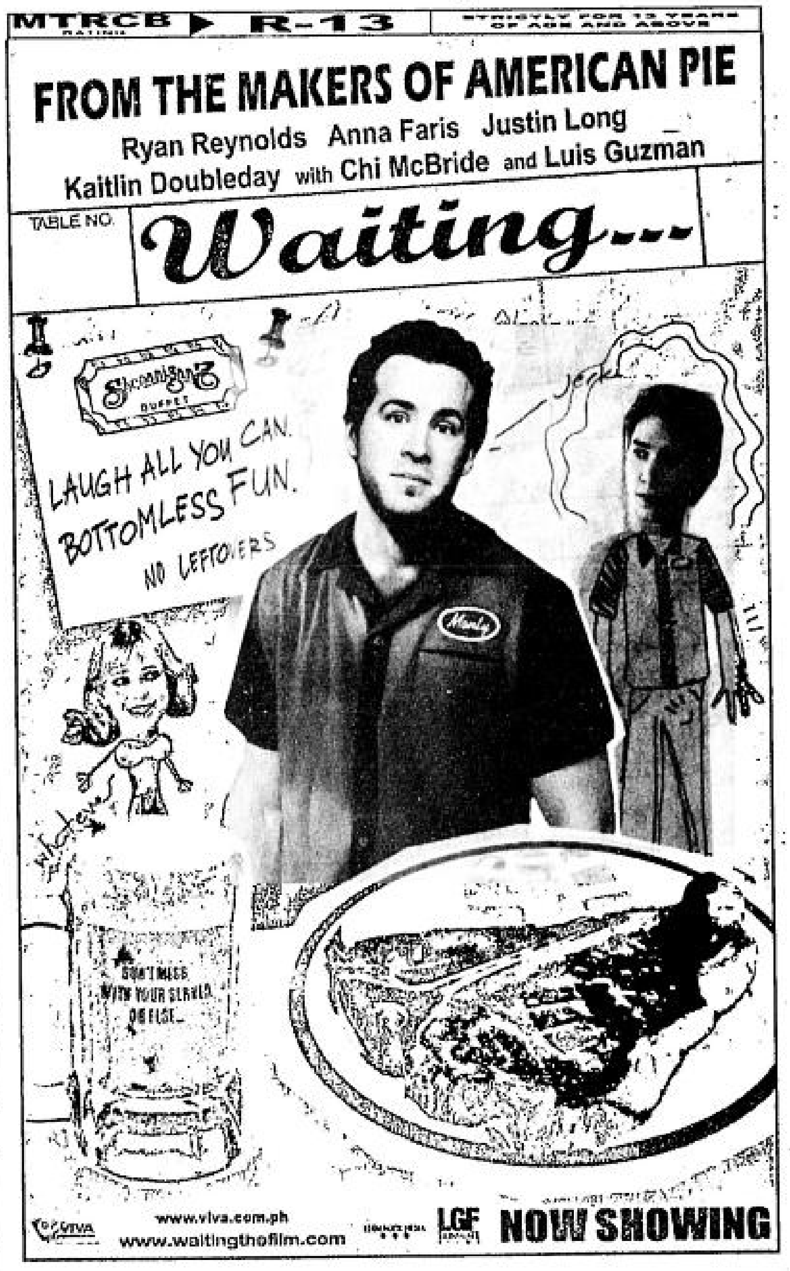
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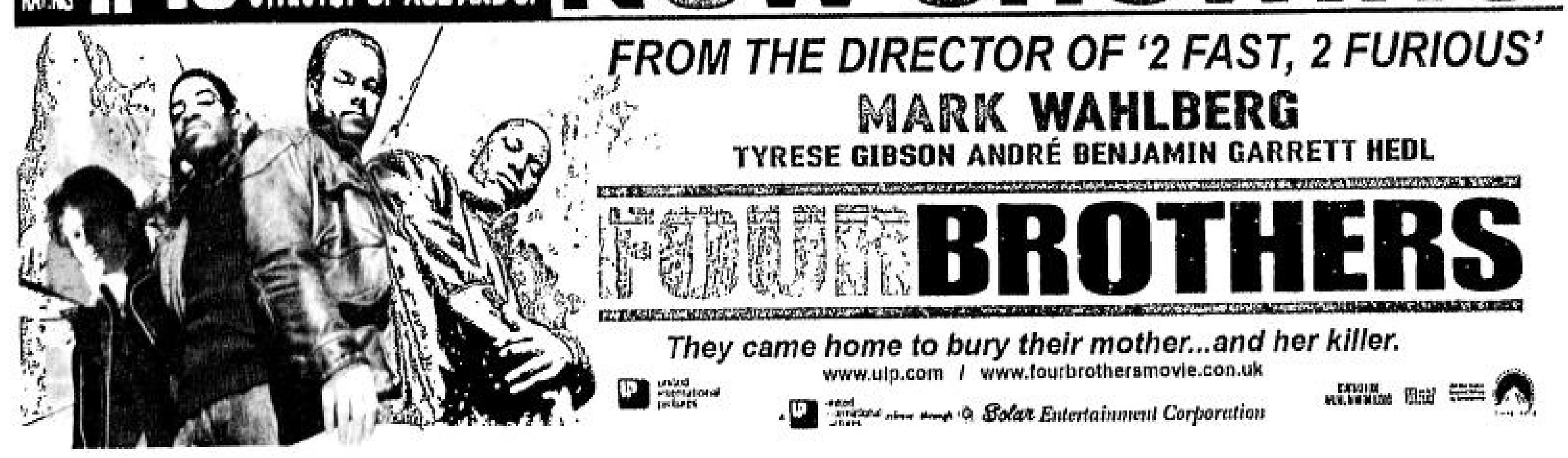
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ENTERTAINMENT

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PINOYS in Japan took in Justin

The one that got away

Meet Justin de Leon, subject of the letter that caused trouble for Alma and company

RUDY: A phone, not a gun

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

IF YOU ASK VIVA HOT MEN MEMBER Justin de Leon, his last Tokyo trip was no holiday even though he got through immigration and wasn't detained like his travel companions Alma Moreno, Rudy Fernandez and company at the Narita International Airport last Oct. 20.

"I waited for them at Narita for over seven hours," he told INQUIRER Entertainment.

In the end, he said, Japan-based actress Priscilla Almeda picked him up and brought him to his host in Tokyo.

"Priscilla mentioned that Joed [Serrano] had been calling her, asking if Ma'am Alma and Sir Rudy had arrived," Justin said.

Serrano is the partner of Robby Tarroza, the Viva consultant who wrote a letter of complaint to Shuhei Ogawa of the Japanese embassy, to prevent De Leon from working in Japan.

De Leon said Tarroza knew of his Tokyo trip from the start. "But I never said I was performing there. Hyubs (a comedian) just asked me to go with [the group] so I could show them around since it was my second time in Japan."

He said Tarroza and Serrano first brought him to Tokyo last May.

This last trip showed him the best and worst in Pinoys. "Filipinos got us in trouble, but it was also our countrymen who helped me in Japan. Some gave me pocket money; others spent for my food. A Filipino family took me in."

On his fifth day in Tokyo, his manager Gorgy Rula, who's in Manila, sent him a warning. "Joed told him I was in danger."

Actually, he said, he saw Serrano in Tokyo. That was why he moved to Chiba, east of Tokyo, until his departure on Nov. 1.

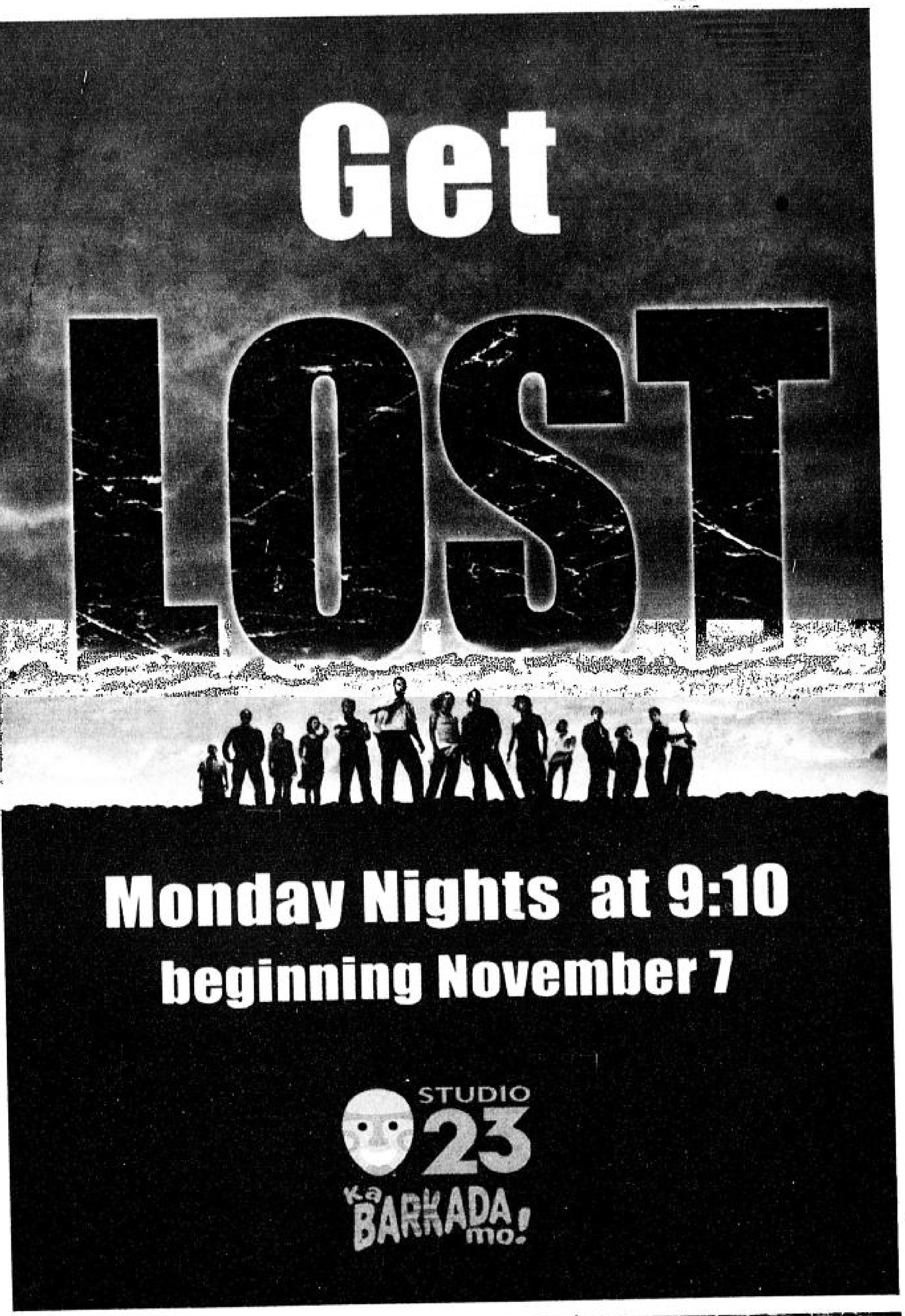
"Another family took care of me there," he said. "In exchange, I watched over their two children."

Meanwhile, Rudy Fernandez denied pistol-whipping Tarroza at the Viva office last Oct. 25.

He described the Tokyo trip as "traumatic."

"I feel bad about what happened to Alma's two kids," he told INQUIRER Entertainment. He had gone to Viva to "clarify matters" with Tarroza, he said. "I didn't go there to fight with him," he said. "But he was arrogant and he raised his voice."

He hit the consultant with a cell phone, he said. "A Nokia 6680, that had to be repaired after."



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Another Pinoy victory

FILIPINO director **Rico Ilarde** got a post-Halloween treat when his film "Sa Ilalim ng Cogon" won Best Picture in the "International Feature" section of the Rojo Sangre horror film festival in Buenos Aires, Argentina, last Nov. 3. "Cogon" will also be shown on Nov. 14 at the Cinénygma in Luxembourg, alongside Hollywood flicks **Josh Whedon**'s "Serenity" and **Darren Lynn Bousman**'s "Saw II."

Ilarde told INQUIRER Entertainment: "Rojo Sangre is Latin America's answer to the more popular horror film fests in Portugal and LA. It's a good start."

Amazing Race, Asian edition

MIPCOM, Cannes—Buena Vista International Television-Asia Pacific and Sony Pictures Television International's AXN Asia have announced that the three-time Emmy Award-winning reality competition series, "The Amazing Race," will soon have a "uniquely Asian edition."

Ricky Ow, general manager of Sony Pictures Entertainment Networks-Asia, said: "I am sure the decision to produce an Asian version [of 'The Amazing Race'] that is made in Asia for Asians will receive a huge 'wow' from our viewers."

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Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	LORD OF WAR
2	LEGEND OF ZORRO
3	MASAHISTA
4	ISPIRITISTA

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1	LEGEND OF ZORRO
2	MASAHISTA

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SOXY TOPACIO • TERI ONOR • RUDY MEYER
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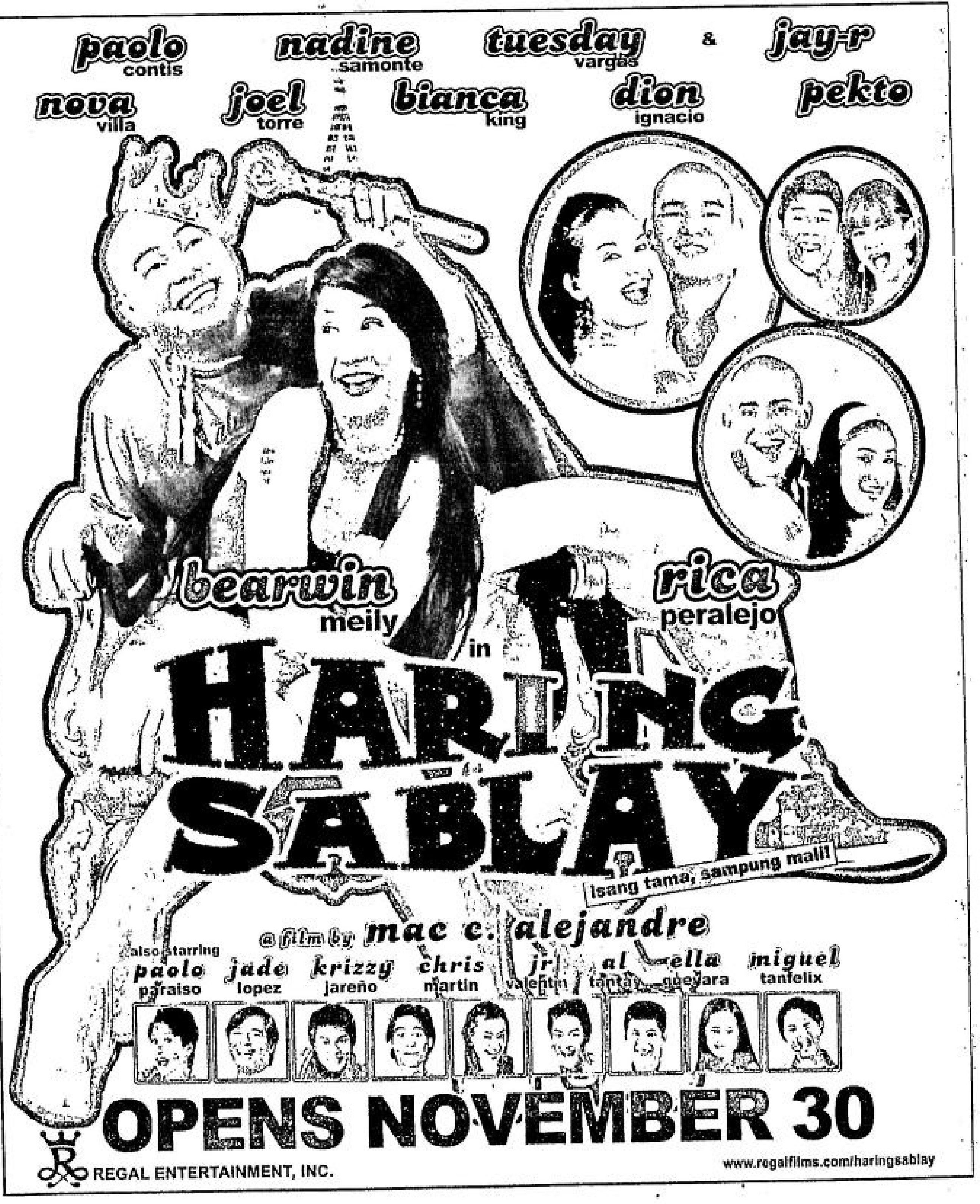
paolo contis
nadine samonte
tuesday vargas
&
jay-r
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joel torre
bianca king
dion ignacio
pekto
bearwin meily
rica peralejo
in
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a film by mac c. alejandre
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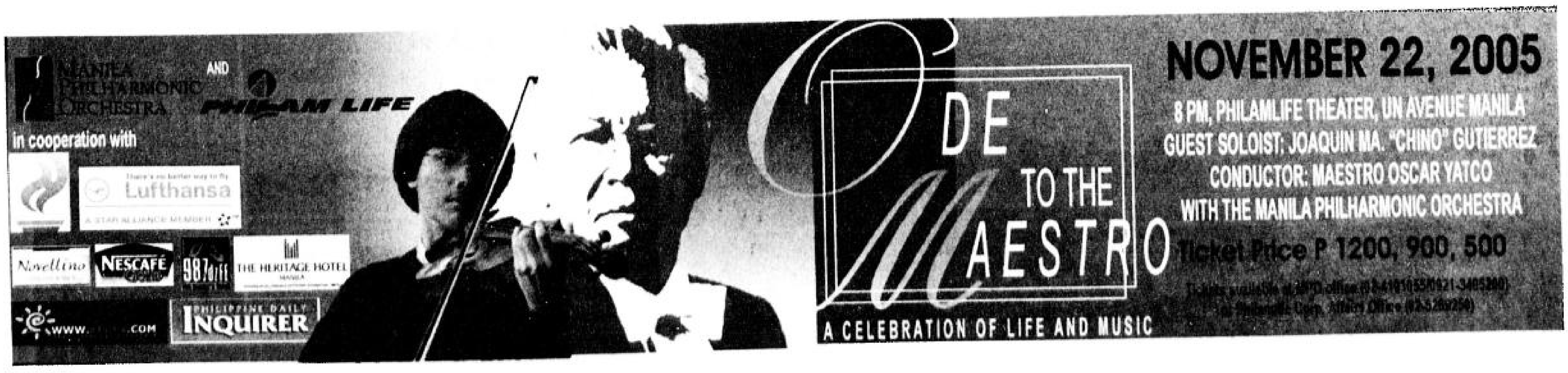
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Daniel Radcliffe and a boy named Harry grow up

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

LONDON—WHAT A DIFFERENCE FIVE years can make.

When it all started, **Daniel Radcliffe** was but a boy. This afternoon, when he walked into a meeting room at the Claridge's Hotel decorated with props from the "Harry Potter" movies, Daniel had the confidence of a young man. Sans his famous character's glasses, Daniel looked fresh out of a parlor.

"I've got my hair cut which is great," he confirmed. He wore a black Agnes B tee, short sleeves revealing arms starting to be toned. Yes, Daniel, now 16 (but plays Harry at 14), is working out at the gym.

An eager talker, Daniel laughed when teased about his first "topless" scene, in "Harry and the Goblet of Fire," fourth movie installment of J.K. Rowling's novel series about a young wizard. Despite this funny scene in the pool in which Daniel appears bare-chested, "Goblet" is the first Potter film to be rated PG-13 in the US.

We saw the movie at Warner Brothers' London screening theater before our press con with Daniel and **Rupert Grint** (we'll write about Rupert in a later column). I can't say much about the movie at this time, except that it is darker. I suppose I can also say that it is one of the better "Harry Potter" movies. Remarkably, "Goblet" director **Mike Newell** is the first British director to take the helm for this very English movie franchise.

My **Ralph Fiennes**-infatuated editor will be happy to know that her great actor, as the evil of all evils Lord Voldemort, livens things up when he appears toward the movie's climax.

When we visited the set last February, we watched as Daniel, Rupert, **Emma Watson** and several other actors film a scene in which they hiked up a hill created inside a soundstage at the Leavesden Studios. In the movie, the scene appeared like it took place outdoors.

While Daniel reportedly fancies **Natalie Portman** and **Scarlett Johansson** as dream female co-stars, Harry has a crush on Cho Chang, played by **Katie Leung.** But Harry is too shy and takes a long time to ask her to the Yule Ball, one of the film's big scenes.

Katie won the part after an extensive search all over the world. Who knew that there's a girl of Chinese descent waiting to be discovered in, of all places, Scotland? At a friend's house in London, I met a Filipina, one of the many Asian girls who tried for the part.

When I asked Daniel about Katie, he said, "She's incredibly cool, sweet—a really nice person with whom you can have really great conversations." I handed him a T-shirt that my daughter Nikki and some of her high school friends made. This was my most important "mission" on this recent London trip.

In real life, are you nervous about asking girls out?

I think every boy of Harry's age is pathetic with girls. When I was 14, I certainly was. I've gotten a bit better now about talking to girls… but it's not something that gets much easier. I'm standing up for every man who has ever had a really awkward moment with a girl.

Can you tell us how you have changed from that first Harry Potter film?

I certainly have gotten a lot more confident while making these films. On the first film, I was a young kid just loving the experience. While I am still having fun, now that I know I want to be an actor, I take it incredibly seriously.

Did you work out for your first "topless" scene?

I've actually started working out *since* then. I don't know if my reaction to seeing that scene resulted in my interest to work out. When I did that part of the film, I was only 14. When you are 14 years old, you are more body conscious. It was possibly not the best age to do it but after a couple of takes, you got used to it.

What was it like working with the great Ralph Fiennes?

He was really nice but he was very scary when he was playing Voldemort. Normally, you're aware that there's a camera, a crew… But Ralph has these eyes, very large, staring at you and quite frightening. His eyes have a way of drawing you into them so you forget that anyone else is there. It becomes scary because it's like it's just you and him and he's going to kill you. He was fantastic to work with in that way but it was quite intense.

Is it true that you are one of the richest young men in England, second only to Prince William? Have you met him and discussed this with him?

Have we talked about finance and things? (Laughter) No. I've never met Prince William. I'm not even sure that being the second richest is true.

Producer David Heyman said you and the others in the main cast are not bound by a contract to do the series, but that you sign a contract per movie. What are your considerations when doing another Harry Potter film?

Whether it will be a really interesting director, whether the script is good, if the part is challenging. Another consideration would be, whether I am doing enough stuff outside of Harry Potter as I'm starting to do this year, so I am not typecast. I feel hugely connected to Harry but I feel more committed to acting.

What do you do in between these Harry Potter films?

I am doing a small independent film called "December Boys" in Australia. I go there in late November.

What is the film about?

The movie is set in the mid-1960s. It's about four Australian boys who have been brought up in a Catholic orphanage in the outback of Australia. This orphanage sends the boys to the sea as their birthday treat. I play a character called Matt, the oldest of the four at 16, who knows he is going to be thrown out of the orphanage at the end of the year. It should be fantastic. I mean, the script is great.

How has Harry Potter changed your life?

A lot of people don't believe this but… not much. People come up to me on the streets but that's really never a problem. I feel famous for only two days a year—during the premieres—and that's it.

E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com.

DANIEL Radcliffe with Emma Watson. His dream co-stars are Natalie Portman and Scarlett Johansson

SHOW TIME

Barney show

The purple dinosaur and his friends will be back in Manila next month for a live show titled "Barney's Musical Castle"—70 minutes of "super-dee-duper" singing and dancing with Barney and pals Baby Bop and BJ at the Araneta Coliseum in Cubao, Quezon City. Call 911-5555.

Today

Sheryn Regis will be at the 2nd level activity area of Starmall Edsa, 4 p.m.

***

Brownman Revival Mall Show, 6 p.m., at the 2nd level nightlife hub of Metropolis Star Alabang.

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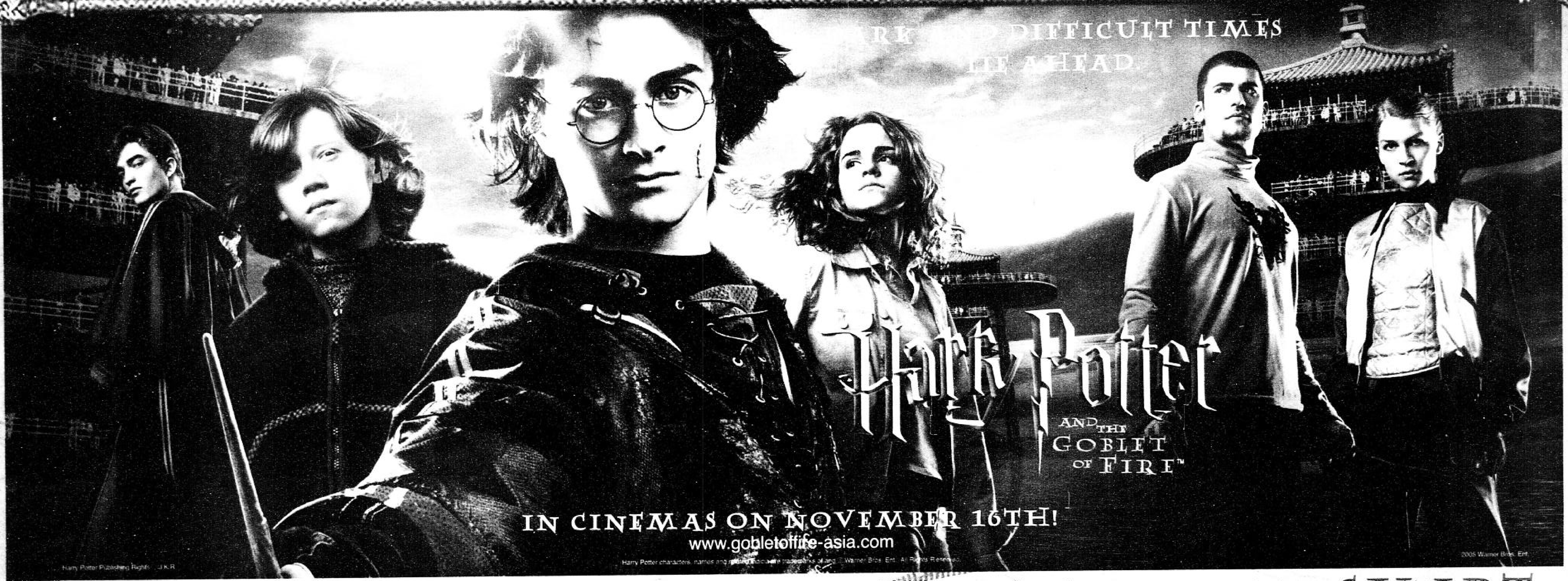
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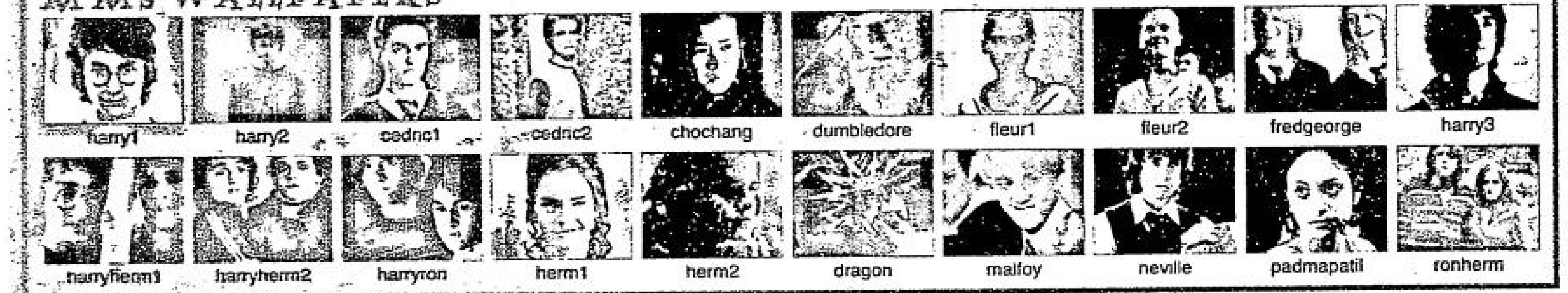
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cedric1
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chochang
dumbledore
fleur1
fleur2
fredgeorge
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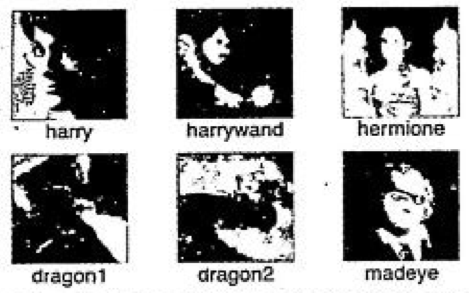
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harrywand
hermione
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dragon2
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JAVA GAME

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Help Harry find Scabbers who is lost in the dungeons below Hogwarts Castle. To complete each level, collect all the Bertie Bott's Every-Flavored Beans. Be careful to avoid creatures.

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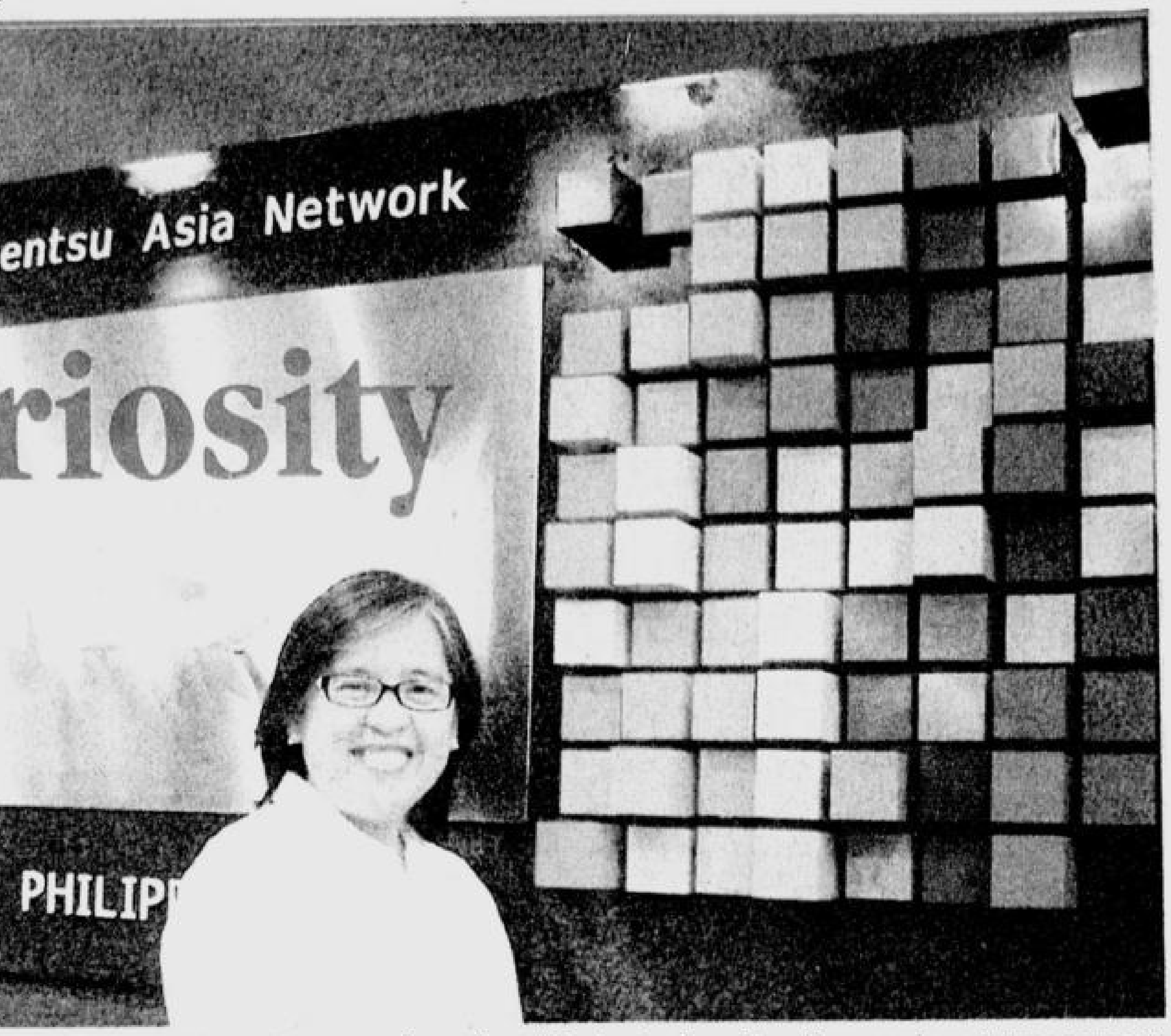
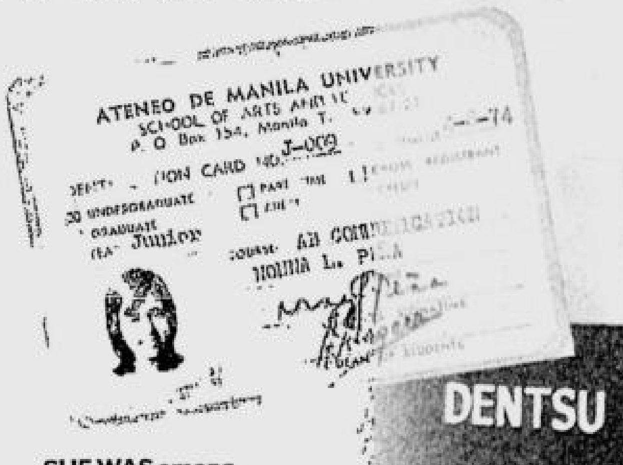
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Key to success in advertising is a natural curiosity

By Margie Quimpo-Espino



DENTSU president Nonna Nanagas' calling card is grey. Dentsu employees have 100 colors to choose from the agency's spectrum. RODEL ROTONI



SHE WAS among the first batch of female students at the Ateneo.

STRESS IS A GIVEN IN HER industry, but since she has been living with it for 30 years, it no longer bugs her.

She is so used to it that she already knows the answers to situations that would normally cause a new hire extreme anxiety.

"Besides, stress will not add to anything," says Nonna P. Nanagas, the feisty head of Dentsu Philippines.

Dentsu is one of the largest advertising agencies in the world with its main business in Japan.

FIRST JOB

Its clients in the Philippines include Japanese firms Toyota Motors Phils Corp., Ajinomoto Phils. Inc., Canon Marketing Philippines, also Bank of the Philippine Islands, Coca Cola Export (Wilkins/Viva/Safety First), Unilab.

Nonna's childhood prepared her well for her chosen career, and there must have been something in the young girl in the '70s, as it prompted two top officials of two advertising agencies to look her up after she graduated.

FRESH out of high school

She met the executives when she was being interviewed for a scholarship offered by the Philippine Association of National Advertisers (Pana). She got the scholarship.

Those who interviewed her included Antonio de Joya, the first Filipino to set up a Filipino ad agency—the Advertising and Marketing Associates—and Tony Cumagun of Philippine Advertising Counselors.

Come graduation, she opted to work for AMA "for no other reason than the fact that Sta. Mesa (where AMA's office was) was closer to Malabon, where I lived."

From 1976 to 1978 she worked as a copywriter, where she got paid P600 a month.

"My first pay check was P600 and it was in the form of bills and coins (no ATMs in 1976). I know I gave part of it to my mom and I am sure I spent some of it on a nice meal," recalls Nonna.

Nonna loves to eat and her love of food she got from her father, a lawyer.

"He taught me how to cook and how to go to the market," says the only child.

But Nonna says how times have changed. "When I was in high school, I would go to the market with P50. That was enough to fill two *bayong* already. Today, P50 will hardly get you anything."

The only child of a lawyer and a teacher, Nonna developed a passion for reading and devoured everything in the house. After finishing high school at St. James Academy, a school then run by Maryknoll sisters, she wanted to go to UP. But it was the time of the First Quarter Storm and there was no way her parents would allow her to go to the most radical place for students at the time.

So it was straight to Maryknoll College for the sweet-looking Nonna. Two years later, however, she moved to Ateneo de Manila University, to join the first batch of girls in what used to be an all-boys school.

She finished Communication Arts and met her future husband.

Her passion for learning continued even

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L.A. 446 sqm. F.A.: 119 sqm.
Lot 678-C McArthur H-way Balibago
Minimum Bid Price 6,132,000.00

APALIT

LOT 2 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 288 sqm. F.A.: 120 sqm.
Lot 3-D Brgy. Rd., No. 387 Brgy. Sampaloc
Minimum Bid Price 370,000.00

LOT 3 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 105 sqm.
Lot 1965-C-3-H-3 Public Market Pasido, San Vicente
Minimum Bid Price : 983,000.00

LOT 4 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 16,180 sqm.
Lot No 1722 San Vicente
Minimum Bid Price 999,000.00

LOT 5 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 360 sqm.
Lot 19 & 21 Blk. 13 St.Peter Subd., San Vicente
Minimum Bid Price 184,000.00

ARAYAT

LOT 6 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 341 sqm.
Lot 3056-A Brgy. Balio
Minimum Bid Price 97,000.00

LOT 7 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 370 sqm. F.A. 145 sqm.
Lot 8 Brgy Rd., Purok 11, Cacutud
Minimum Bid Price 829,000.00

LOT 8 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 600 sqm.
Lot 320 Brgy. Rd. No. 31 Purok 6, Brgy Camba
Minimum Bid Price 189,000.00

LOT 9 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 3,244 sqm.
Lot 2036-E Magalang-Arayat Prov'L Rd., Gatiawin
Minimum Bid Price 993,000.00

LOT 10 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 743 sqm.
Lot 2284-J-1-C Brgy. Gatiawin
Minimum Bid Price 253,000.00

BACOLOR

LOT 11 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 328 sqm.
Lot 8, Blk 11 Rd. Lot 1, Don Bosco Village, Brgy. Cabalantian
Minimum Bid Price 20,000.00

LOT 12 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 301 sqm.
Lot 3321-B-2 Brgy. Rd., Brgy. Macabacle
Minimum Bid Price 16,000.00

LOT 13 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 46 Blk 3 Rd Lot 3 San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price 15,000.00

FLORIDA BLANCA

LOT 14 - VACANT LOT
L.A.. 21.17 sqm.
Lot 87 Pabanlang
Minimum Bid Price 1,186,000.00

GUAGUA

LOT 15 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 516 sqm.
Lot 1473 & 1134, #9 Purok 6, Brgy. Natividad
Minimum Bid Price 85,000.00

LOT 16 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 1,907 sqm.
Lot 3-B Ascomo, Pulungmasle
Minimum Bid Price 201,000.00

LOT 17 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 250 sqm.
Lot 4-B, #214, Purok 4, Brgy. Ascomo, Pulungmasle
Minimum Bid Price 80,000.00

LOT 18 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 154 sqm.
Lot 14 Brgy Rd., San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price 40,000.00

LOT 19 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 300 sqm.
Lot 1-D San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 174,000.00

LOT 20 - VACANT LOT
L.A.. 241 sqm.
Lot 2-I Rd. Lot, Carville Subd., Brgy. Sto. Niño & Sto. Cristo
Minimum Bid Price 45,000.00

LOT 21 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 731 sqm.
Lot 5-F Cervantes Subd., Sto. Niño
Minimum Bid Price 187,000.00

LOT 22 - VACANT LOT
WITHDRAWN

LOT 23 - VACANT LOT
WITHDRAWN

LOT 24 - VACANT LOT
L.A.. 1,033 sqm.
Lot 5-P Cervantes Subd., Sto. Niño
Minimum Bid Price 264,000.00

LUBAO

LOT 25 - VACANT LOT
L.A.. 1,392 sqm.
Lot 2-C & 2-E San Roque Arbol
Minimum Bid Price 53,000.00

LOT 26 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-I-1 Rd. Lot 1-J San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 319,000.00

LOT 27 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-I-2 Rd. Lot 1-J San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 319,000.00

LOT 28 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-I-3 Rd. Lot 1-J San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price 319,000.00

LOT 29 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-H-3, Rd. Lot 1-J. San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price 319,000.00

LOT 30 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-H-2, Rd. Lot 1-J, San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 319,000.00

LOT 31 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-H-1, Rd. Lot 1-J, San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 319,000.00

LOT 32 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,069 sqm.
Lot 1-I-4 Prov'L. Rd., San Roque Dau 1St
Minimum Bid Price : 446,000.00

LOT 33 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 1,875 sqm. F.A. 413 sqm.
Lot 5700 & 5701 Brgy. Rd. Brgy. Sta. Lucia
Minimum Bid Price : 1,573,000.00

LOT 34 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 7,000 sqm.
Lot C-1 Brgy. Sta. Lucia & San Juan
Minimum Bid Price 16,000.00

MABALACAT

LOT 35 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 375 sqm.
Lot 32 Blk 36 Rizal St. Dolores
Minimum Bid Price 90,000.00

MACABEBE

LOT 36 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 209 sqm. F.A.: 154 sqm.
Lot 927 Nat'L. Rd., Caduang Tete
Minimum Bid Price 422,000.00

LOT 37 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 538 sqm.
Lot 2593-T Access Rd San Roque
Minimum Bid Price 69,000.00

MAGALANG

LOT 38 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 350 sqm. F.A.: 72 sqm.
Lot 2, #166 Purok 4, Brgy San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 195,000.00

LOT 39 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,785 sqm.
Lot 9-A Baliucan Rd San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price : 1,040,000.00

LOT 40 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,177 sqm.
Lot 9-B Baliucan Rd San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price : 813,000.00

LOT 41 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,171 sqm.
Lot 9-C Baliucan Rd San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 811,000.00

LOT 42 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 2,164 sqm.
Lot 9-D Baliucan Rd San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 809,000.00

LOT 43 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 2,254 sqm.
Lot 9-E Baliucan Rd San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 842,000.00

LOT 44 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 2,172 sqm.
Lot 9-F Baliucan Rd. San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 811,000.00

LOT 45 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 2,190 sqm.
Lot 9-G Baliucan Rd San Miguel
Minimum Bid Price 818,000.00

LOT 46 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 12,059 sqm.F.A. 1,486 sqm.
Lot 2 Brgy Rd., San Pablo
Minimum Bid Price 2,247,000.00

LOT 47 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 226 sqm.
Lot 1, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 64,000.00

LOT 48 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 331 sqm.
Lot 2, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 93,000.00

LOT 49 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 3, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 50 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 4, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 51 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 240 sqm.
Lot 5, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 52 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 6, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 53 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 7, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 54 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 8, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 55 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 240 sqm.
Lot 9, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 68,000.00

LOT 56 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 240 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 20,000.00

LOT 57 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 11, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 24,000.00

LOT 58 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 240 sqm.
Lot 12, Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 24,000.00

LOT 59 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 433 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 1 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 260,000.00

LOT 60 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 368 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 1 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 221,000.00

LOT 61 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 303 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 1 Pob San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 182,000.00

LOT 62 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 368 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 221,000.00

LOT 63 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 249 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 150,000.00

LOT 64 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 253 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 152,000.00

LOT 65 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 257 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 2 Pob San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 155,000.00

LOT 66 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 261 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 157,000.00

LOT 67 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 265 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 159,000.00

LOT 68 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 270 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro Magalang
Minimum Bid Price 162,000.00

LOT 69 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 295 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 2 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 177,000.00

LOT 70 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 181 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 9 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 109,000.00

LOT 71 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 149 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 9 Pob San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 90,000.00

LOT 72 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 218 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 9 Pob San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 131,000.00

LOT 73 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 269 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 9 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 162,000.00

LOT 74 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 236 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 9 Pob San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 142,000.00

LOT 75 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 9 Pob San Pedro Magalang
Minimum Bid Price : 144,000.00

LOT 76 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 155 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 9 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 93,000.00

LOT 77 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 218 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 9 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 131,000.00

LOT 78 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 149 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 9 Pob. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 90,000.00

LOT 79 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 183 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 52,000.00

LOT 80 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 147 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 42,000.00

LOT 81 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 185 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 52,000.00

LOT 82 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 148 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 42,000.00

LOT 83 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 183 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 52,000.00

LOT 84 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 304 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 86,000.00

LOT 85 - VACANT LOT
L.A.. 236 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 86 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 87 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 88 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 89 - VACANT LOT
L.A.. 240 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 90 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 280 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 21,000.00

LOT 91 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 355 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 27,000.00

LOT 92 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 206 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 16,000.00

LOT 93 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 338 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 26,000.00

LOT 94 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 95 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 96 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 97 - VACANT LOT
L.A.. 236 sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 5 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 98 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 363 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 28,000.00

LOT 99 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 100 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 101 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 102 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 103 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 104 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk. 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 105 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk. 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 106 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk. 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 107 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk. 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 108 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 329 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 6 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 25,000.00

LOT 109 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 279 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 7 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 21,000.00

LOT 110 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 238 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 7 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 111 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 244 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 7 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 19,000.00

LOT 112 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 242 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk. 8 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 72,000.00

LOT 113 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 114 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 14. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price . 18,000.00

LOT 115 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 15 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 116 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 281 sqm.
Lot 16 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 22,000.00

LOT 117 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 197 sqm.
Lot 17. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 15,000.00

LOT 118 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 290 sqm.
Lot 18. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 22,000.00

LOT 119 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 19. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 120 - VACANT LOT
L.A.. 240 sqm.
Lot 20 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 121 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 21 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 122 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 22. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price . 18,000.00

LOT 123 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 23. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price : 18,000.00

LOT 124 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 24 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 125 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 25. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 126 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 26. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 127 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 27. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 128 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 28 Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 129 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 240 sqm.
Lot 29. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 130 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
Lot 30. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 18,000.00

LOT 131 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 306 sqm.
Lot 31. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 23,000.00

LOT 132 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 207 sqm.
Lot 32. Blk 4 San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 16,000.00

MASANTOL

LOT 133 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 194 sqm.
Lot 735-B-13-1-5-6 Brgy Bebe-Anac
Minimum Bid Price 81,000.00

MEXICO

LOT 134 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 270 sqm.
Lot 1, Blk 9 Subd. Rd., San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price 152,000.00

LOT 135 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 270 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 9 Subd Rd., San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price 152,000.00

MINALIN

LOT 136-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 410 sqm. F.A.: 95 sqm.
Lot 10 No 56 Capt. Feliciano St., Lourdes
Minimum Bid Price 203,000.00

LOT 137-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 345 sqm. F.A.. 251 sqm.
Lot No. 16 Caloocan St., Brgy. Lourdes
Minimum Bid Price 175,000.00

LOT 138-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A: 513 sqm. F.A.: 115 sqm.
Lot 295 Bondo St. Lourdes
Minimum Bid Price 416,000.00

LOT 139-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 368 sqm.
Lot 1143 Brgy. Rd., Brgy. San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price 88,000.00

LOT 140 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 238 sqm.
Lot 25, Blk 17 Rd. Lot, Brgy. Sta. Rita
Minimum Bid Price 51,000.00

PORAC

LOT 141 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,486 sqm.
Lot 1115-B Brgy Mancatian
Minimum Bid Price 5,000.00

LOT 142 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 1,400 sqm.
Lot 6, Blk 4 Brgy Manibaug-Pasig
Minimum Bid Price 64,000.00

LOT 143-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 300 sqm. F.A.. 100 sqm.
Lot 489-B-2-C-3 # 218 Purok 5 Brgy Palat
Minimum Bid Price 256,000.00

LOT 144-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 1,605 sqm.
Lot 1037 & Lot 1038-1 Gen. Luna St. Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 1,313,000.00

LOT 145 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 1,013 sqm.
Lot 407-D-10 Brgy Sapung Bulaon
Minimum Bid Price 130,000.00

SAN FERNANDO

LOT 146 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 431 sqm.
Lot 4177-A-9-E Purok 3. Brgy. Dela Paz Norte
Minimum Bid Price 81,000.00

LOT 147-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 341 sqm. F.A. 80 sqm.
Lot 4160-A Brgy Sagum
Minimum Bid Price 70,000.00

LOT 148 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 1,675 sqm.
Lot 9-E Corazon St., Brgy. San Agustin
Minimum Bid Price 588,884.00

LOT 149 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 496 sqm.
Lot 3-A-9 San Agustin
Minimum Bid Price 338,000.00

LOT 150 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 10. Blk 17 Bel-Air And Sta. Monica Subds., San Felipe & San Nicolas
Minimum Bid Price 57,000.00

LOT 151 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 11. Blk 17 Bel-Air And Sta. Monica Subds., San Felipe & San Nicolas
Minimum Bid Price 57,000.00

LOT 152 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 375 sqm.
Lot28, Blk 1 Rd Lot 2, San Jose Village, Brgy San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 64,000.00

LOT 153-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 191 sqm. F.A 252 sqm.
Lot 20-B, #531 Purok 1. San Jose Panduan
Minimum Bid Price 897,000.00

LOT 154-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 300 sqm. F.A. 110 sqm.
Lot 21 Blk 4 Genesis St., Olivas Subd., San Nicolas
Minimum Bid Price 266,084.46

LOT 155 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 351 sqm.
Lot 20, Blk 10 Rd. Lot 7, Olivas Subd., San Nicolas
Minimum Bid Price 100,000.00

LOT 156-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 383 sqm.
Lot 8, Blk 5 Brgy. Rd., Purok 10, Sta. Lucia
Minimum Bid Price 108,000.00

LOT 157-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 379 sqm.
Lot 15. Blk 6 Rd. Lot 2, Aurea Subd., Sta. Lucia
Minimum Bid Price 97,000.00

SAN LUIS

LOT 158-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 2,395 sqm. F.A.: 95 sqm.
Lot 2318-C Brgy. Rd., # 326 San Juan
Minimum Bid Price : 143,000.00

LOT 159 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 20,446 sqm.
Lot 2213-F San Juan
Minimum Bid Price 384,000.00

LOT 160-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 232 sqm. F.A.: 123 sqm.
Lot 5-A-4 Brgy. Rd., # 2591 San Roque
Minimum Bid Price 65,000.00

LOT 161-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 506 sqm.
Lot 22. Brgy. Rd., Brgy San Roque
Minimum Bid Price 41,000.00

SAN SIMON

LOT 162-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 78 sqm.
Lot 14. Blk 1 Rd. Lot 1. Brgy. Concepcion
Minimum Bid Price : 50,000.00

LOT 163 - VACANT LOT
L.A.: 654 sqm.
Lot 3310 Concepcion
Minimum Bid Price : 151,000.00

LOT 164-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 893 sqm.
Lot 2 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price : 416,000.00

LOT 165-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 273 sqm.
Lot 4 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price . 59,000.00

LOT 166-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 773 sqm. F.A.: 140 sqm.
Lot No. 1523 Municipal Rd Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 484,000.00

LOT 167-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 566 sqm. F.A.. 70 sqm.
Lot 1342 Prov'L Rd. San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 200,000.00

STA. ANA

LOT 168-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 263 sqm. F.A.: 170 sqm.
Lot 17 & 19. Blk 2 Rd. Lot, Alivello Heights, San Juan
Minimum Bid Price 1,002,000.00

STO. TOMAS

LOT 169-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 271 sqm. F.A. 98 sqm.
Lot 15 Interior, Balangcas
Minimum Bid Price 139,000.00

LOT 170-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 300 sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 23 Subd. Rd., Balangcas
Minimum Bid Price 84,000.00

LOT 171 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 400 sqm.
Lot 6, Blk 4 Brgy. Rd., Moraz Dela Paz
Minimum Bid Price : 272,000.00

LOT 172 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 707 sqm.
Lot 1762-B-1 Bo. Dolaquilan, San Matias
Minimum Bid Price : 453,000.00

LOT 173-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 384 sqm. F.A 144 sqm.
Lot 17 & 19, Blk 3, Subd. Rd., Countrysquare Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 508,000.00

LOT 174-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.: 12,185 sqm. F.A. 913 sqm.
Lot 1, 2 & 1784-C-2-A Prov'L. Rd., Brgy San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 3,264,000.00

LOT 175-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 283 sqm. F.A 72 sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 8 Rd. Lot 1, Paraiso Subd. San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 259,563.64

LOT 176-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 600 sqm. F.A. 557 sqm.
Lots 28 & 29, Blk 1 Rd Lot 1 Paraiso Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 257,000.00

LOT 177-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A.. 300 sqm. F.A 164 sqm.
Lot 36, Blk 1 Subd Rd., Paraiso Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 425,000.00

LOT 178-LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 256 sqm. F.A 60 sqm.
Lot 1, Brgy. Rd., Twaño Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 503,751.39

LOT 179 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 440 sqm.
Lot 4, Blk 23 Subd. Rd., Balangcas, San Matias
Minimum Bid Price : 113,000.00

LOT 180 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 192 sqm.
Lot 14, Blk 3 Subd. Rd. Coury Square Subd., San Matias
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

- GUARANTEED FINANCING-FIXED INTEREST UP TO 10YRS
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10 YEARS TO PAY

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NOV. 22, 2005, UCPB BLDG., MAKATI AVE., MAKATI CITY
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 2:30 PM • AUCTION PROMPTLY STARTS AT 3:30 PM

LUZON

LAS PINAS

UCPB LSP003 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 6,173 sqm. (Near TOYOTA)
LOT 2-B, ALABANG-ZAPOTE Road
MIN. BID PRICE.71,306,100.00

UCPB LSP004 - TOWNHOUSE
L.A. 119 sqm.
Elegant Homes II, Estanislao St.,
B.F. RESORT VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,242,000.00

UCPB LSP005 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/
L.A. 280 sqm. IMPROVEMENT
Sitio Kaymate, BO. TALON
MIN. BID PRICE. P 2,691,000.00

UCPB LSP006 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 1,077 sqm.
BRGY. ZAPOTE (Beside Makro)
MIN. BID PRICE: (CALL US)

MAKATI CITY

UCPB MKT007 - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 60.07 sqm W/ PARKING
La Domain Condo, Tordecillas St., SALCEDO VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,763,000.00

UCPB MKT008 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 484 sqm.
L10 B3, Chino Roces Ave., KAYAMANAN "A"
MIN. BID PRICE: P 26,435,000.00

UCPB MKT009 - TOWNHOUSE
L.A. 210.79 sqm.
Makati Prime City Saint Paul St.,
SAN ANTONIO VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE. P 4,320,000.00

UCPB MKT010 - PARKING SLOT
L.A. 12 sqm. (4 SLOTS AVAILABLE)
102 Aguirre St., LEGASPI VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 401.400 00 each

UCPB MKT014 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 478 sqm.
Katayaan Corner Kawit St., STA. CRUZ
MIN. BID PRICE: P 8,004,000.00

UCPB MKT015 - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 129.62 sqm.
Unit 305, No. 1233 M. Reyes, BANGKAL
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1 915,200 00

MANDALUYONG CITY

UCPB MND016 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 312 sqm.
Sta. Lucia St., PLAINVIEW
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,708,000.00

UCPB MND 021 - RESIDENTIAL CONDO
F.A. 140.86 sqm
Unit 301, COURT FELICIDAD I, Wack-wack
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,132,000.00

MANILA

UCPB MLA 022 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 375 sqm.
Lot30 Blk3, Lot44 Blk3, España Blvd.,
SAMPALOC
MIN. BID PRICE: P 9 675,000.00

MUNTINLUPA CITY

UCPB MUN023 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 500 sqm.
L19 B8, Along Cadiz St., SUSANA HTS SUBD
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,606,500.00

UCPB MUN024 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 500 sqm.
L17 B8. Along Cadiz St.,
SUSANA HEIGHTS SUBD., Village1
MIN. BID PRICE P 1,645,200.00

PARAÑAQUE CITY

UCPB PRO025 - INDUSTRIAL LOT W/
OFFICE & WAREHOUSE
L.A. 1671 sqm.
SAN MARTIN DE PORRES
MIN. BID PRICE: P 33,579,000.00

UCPB PRO174 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 553.45 sqm.
Jose Abad Santos St., BAYVIEW VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 5,738.400.00

UCPB PSY026 - CONDO UNIT
L.A 144.70 sqm. W/ PARKING
Unit 908 9/F, CHATEAU DE BAIE CONDO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,220,000.00

PASIG CITY

UCPB PSG027 - CONDO UNIT
F.A. 224.14 sqm W/ PARKING
PARK CHATEAU cor GARNET & SAPPHIRE
MIN. BID PRICE. P 4,536,000.00

UCPB PSG028 - RESIDENTIAL CONDO
F.A. 215.24 sqm. W/ PARKING
RENAISSANCE 3000
MIN. BID PRICE: P 7,479,000.00

QUEZON CITY

UCPB QC030 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 586 sqm. F.A. 562 sqm.
Zaragosa St., ARANETA VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 5,917,500.00

UCPB QC031 - RESIDENTIAL W/
L.A. 160 sqm IMPROVEMENT
Jade St., SILVERLAND SUBD.,Tandang Sora
MIN. BID PRICE. P 1,838,700.00

UCPB QC032 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 103 sqm.
Moses St., GOODWILL HOMES.
Bagabag, Novaliches
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,900,800.00

UCPB QC033 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A 59 sqm. W/ IMPROVEMENT
METROGREEN VILLAGE Bagabag, Nova
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,168,300.00

UCPB QC034 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/
L.A 96 sqm. IMPROVEMENT
METROGREEN VILLAGE, Bagabag, Nova
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,340,100.00

UCPB QC035 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 561 sqm.
Cynthia St., DOÑA CARMEN SUBD.,
Fairview
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,245,600.00

UCPB QC036 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 141.40 sqm.
8 Maestranza St., NEW INTRAMUROS VILL.
MIN BID PRICE: P 3,360,600.00

UCPB QC037 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 245 sqm.
Batangas St., SAN FRANCISCO DEL MONTE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,330,000.00

UCPB QC038 - RESIDENTIAL CONDO UNIT
F.A. 85.46 sqm
Unit 303, JADE PLACE CONDO.,
Visayas Ave.
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,016,000.00

UCPB QC039 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 281 sqm.
Lot 1, Blk 77, LAGRO SUBD., Novaliches
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,340,000 00

UCPB QC040 - OFFICE CONDO
F.A. 62.90 sqm.
Unit C-7/GF, Unit C-7, Adelina II Condo.,
CUBAO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,101,600.00

SAN JUAN

UCPB SJ041 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 322 sqm.
Along A. Bonifacio St.
MIN. BID PRICE. P 2,851,200.00

UCPB SJ042 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 926 sqm.
31 Cor Madison & Polk St,
NORTH GREENHILLS
MIN. BID PRICE. P 30,772,800.00

ANTIPOLO CITY

UCPB ANT045 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 834 sqm
B 2 L 5, Selfurd St., TOWN AND COUNTRY
MIN. BID PRICE P 2 282.400.00

UCPB ANT046 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 165 sqm. F.A. 164 sqm.
Coolidge St., CUESTA VERDE EXEC. VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 849,600.00

UCPB ANT047 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 437 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 7, PARKRIDGE EXEC. VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 786,600.00

UCPB ANT048 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 619 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 7, PARKRIDGE EXEC. VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,114,200.00

UCPB ANT049 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 640 sqm.
Lot 21 Blk 3, PARKRIDGE EXEC. VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 599,400.00

UCPB ANT050 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 605 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 4, PARKRIDGE EXEC. VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 740,700.00

UCPB ANT051 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 678 sqm.
Lot 20 Blk 3, PARKRIDGE EXEC. VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 634.500.00

UCPB ANT052 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1,151 sqm.
B 3 L 10, TOWN AND COUNTRY ESTATES
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,149,100.00

UCPB ANT053 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1,145 sqm.
B 3 L 11, TOWN AND COUNTRY ESTATES
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,132,000.00

UCPB ANT054 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 652 sqm.
Lot 23, Blk 3, PARKRIDGE ESTATES SUBD
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,198,800.00

UCPB ANT055 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 512 sqm.
Lot 2, Blk 3, PARKRIDGE ESTATES SUBD.
MIN. BID PRICE: P 921,600.00

ALBAY

UCPB ABY043 - COMMERCIAL BLDG.
L.A. 421 sqm.
Peñaranda St., (near LLC) LEGAZPI CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 5,940,000.00

UCPB ABY044 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 204 sqm.
Lot 1. La Playa Village, LEGASPI CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 576,000.00

BATANGAS

UCPB BAT057 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 15, 002 sqm.
Brgy. Bulacnin, LIPA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 6,240,000

UCPB BAT058 - INDUSTRIAL LOT
L.A. 32,960 sqm. W/ WAREHOUSE
Lot 9806, Brgy. Pusil, LIPA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 8,703,000.00

UCPB BAT059 - RESIDENTIAL LOTS
L.A. 9,998 sqm. (38 LOTS)
Brgy. San Sebastian, LIPA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: CALL US

UCPB BAT060 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 72,642 sqm.
Lot 12381-B, Brgy. Tangob, LIPA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 8,100,000.00

UCPB BAT062 - 3 UNITS HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 649 sqm.
MIRACLE HEIGHTS SUBD. Lipa City
MIN. BID PRICE: P 15,552,000.00

UCPB BAT063 - AGRO-INDUSTRIAL LOT
L.A. 10,003 sqm.
Lot 1-C-1, Brgy. San Felipe, PADRE GARCIA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,691,000 00

UCPB BAT064 - AGRI LAND
L.A. 61,815 sqm.
Brgy. Pangao Cumba, LIPA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 7,137,000.00

UCPB BAT065 - 6UNITS 2STRY APRT. &
3UNITS 2STRY COMMERCIAL BLDG.
L.A. 1,145 sqm.
Lot 1018, Brgy. San Sebastian, LIPA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 7,434,000 00

UCPB BAT066 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 755 sqm.
Along Gen. Luna ATHENIANS, Sabang,
Lipa City
MIN. BID PRICE: P 6,699,600.00

UCPB BAT067 - GAS STATION
L.A. 11,632 sqm.
Lot 10354-B-2, Brgy. Buglong Na Pulo, LIPA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 13,833,000.00

BAGUIO CITY

UCPB BAG175 - VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A.375 (VARIOUS)
VISTA VERDE HEIGHTS VIRAC, Itogon
MIN. BID PRICE: P206,253.78 / 550 per sqm

BULACAN

UCPB BLN068 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 323 sqm.
Opel St., VILLACOR VILL., Brgy Langka,
Meycauayan
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,304,000.00

UCPB BLN069 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/
L.A. 221 sqm. IMPROVEMENT
3rd St., Bo. Fatima, Sapang Palay, SJDM
MIN. BID PRICE: P 288,000.00

UCPB BLN070 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/
L.A. 207 sqm IMPROVEMENT
Lot 1 Blk 58 Sapang Palay, SJDM
MIN. BID PRICE: P 432 000 00

UCPB BLN071 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 146 sqm.
AYUKIT SUBD.,Brgy Binang 2nd & Turo,
Bocaue
MIN. BID PRICE: P 231,300.00

UCPB BLN072 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 205 sqm.
AYUKIT SUBD.,Brgy.Binang 2nd & Turo,
Bocaue
MIN BID PRICE: P 326,700.00

UCPB BLN073 - RICE MILL W/ 3 STRY
COMMERCIAL BLDG. 8 DOORS-2 STRY
COMMERCIAL BLDG.
L.A. 1,874 sqm.
Lot 1229-A, Brgy. Tuktukan, GUIGUINTO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 27, 920. 000.00

UCPB BLN074 - INDUSTRIAL LOT
L.A. 11,155.73 sqm.
Brgy. Patubig, MARILAO
MIN BID PRICE: P 31,282,550.00

UCPB BLN075 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 1,628 sqm.
Sapang Palay, SAN JOSE DEL MONTE
MIN BID PRICE. P 2,160,000.00

UCPB BLN076 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 347 sqm. W/ IMPROVEMENT
B27 L20, SAPANG PALAY
MIN. BID PRICE. P 440,100.00

UCPB BLN077 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 209 sqm.
Avocado St., Area F, Bo. Sapang Palay,
SJDM
MIN. BID PRICE: P 288 000.00

CAGAYAN VALLEY

UCPB CYN078 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 3,511 sqm.
Lot 2437, Brgy. Ugac Sur,
TUGUEGARAO CITY
MIN. BID PRICE. P 24,448,500.00

CAMARINES NORTE/SUR

UCPB CMS083 - RICE MILL W/
WAREHOUSE
L.A. 2,837 sqm
San Isidro, CALABANGA
MIN. BID PRICE. P 6,300,000.00

UCPB_CMS084 - RESIDENTIAL VACANT LOT
L.A. 700 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 11, Bo. Bagasbas, DAET
MIN BID PRICE: P 225,000.00

UCPB_CMS085 - RESIDENTIAL VACANT LOT
L.A. 830 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 2, FLORIDA VILLAGE,
Lag-On, Daet
MIN. BID PRICE: P 508,500.00

UCPB CMS086 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 745 sqm.
Lot 18 Blk 8, Brgy. Pasig, DAET
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,638,000.00

CAVITE

UCPB CVT087 - CONDOMINIUM
F.A. 182.88 sqm.
Southwoods Villa, CARMONA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,818,700.00

UCPB CVT088 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 1,238 sqm. W/ IMPROVEMENT
VILLA RAMIREZ SUBD., Brgy. Tabon, Kawit
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,016,800.00

UCPB CVT089 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 563 sqm.
Lot 31 Blk 22, Manila Southwoods,
CARMONA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,026,800.00

UCPB CVT090 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 486 sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 38, Manila Southwoods,
CARMONA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,749,600.00

UCPB CVT091 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 486 sqm
Lot 4 Blk 38, Manila Southwoods,
CARMONA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,749,600.00

UCPB CVT092 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 505 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 38, Manila Southwoods,
CARMONA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,818,000.00

UCPB CVT093 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 470 sqm.
Lot 18 Blk 35, Manila Southwoods,
CARMONA
MIN BID PRICE: P 1,692,000.00

UCPB CVT094 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 609 sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 32, Manila Southwoods,
CARMONA
MIN BID PRICE: P 2,192,400.00

UCPB CVT095 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 534 sqm.
Lot 72 Blk 54, Manila Southwoods,
CARMONA
MIN BID PRICE: P 1,922,400.00

UCPB CVT096 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 3,324 sqm.
Brgy. Poblacion, CARMONA
MIN BID PRICE: P 21,539,700.00

UCPB CVT097 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 4,989 sqm.
Brgy. Poblacion, CARMONA
MIN BID PRICE: P 32,393,700.00

UCPB CVT098 - CONDOMINIUM
F.A. 71 sqm.
UNIT 61B, VISTA DE LORO HEIGHTS,
Puerto Azul
MIN BID PRICE: P 1,346,400.00

ILOCOS NORTE

UCPB IN099 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 116 sqm.
J.P Rizal & P Hernando Sts., LAOAG CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 4,257,000.00

UCPB IN100 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 153 sqm.
Juan Luna St., LAOAG CITY
MIN BID PRICE: P 525,000.00

ISABELA

UCPB ISA101 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 501 sqm.
Lot 500-C-1-A, Calao East, SANTIAGO CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 480,000 00

UCPB ISA102 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 188 sqm. W/ IMPROVEMENT
Lot 9232-C-2-A, Barangay Villasis,
SANTIAGO CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,990,000.00

UCPB ISA103 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 2,000 sqm.
Dubinan West, SANTIAGO CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,000,000.00

UCPB ISA104 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/
L.A. 650 sqm. IMPROVEMENT
Bo. Batal, SANTIAGO CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 469,000.00

UCPB ISA105 - AGRO-INDUSTRIAL LOT
L.A. 32,357 sqm.
B-2, Bo. Del Pilar, ALICIA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 18,867,000.00

LAGUNA

UCPB_LGN106 - 2 STRY RESIDENTIAL BLDG
L.A. 200 sqm. F.A. 206.84 sqm.
MARYMOUNT VILLAGE, Bo. Anos,
Los Baños
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,575,000.00

UCPB LGN107 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 458 sqm.
Ocampo Cmpd., Sta. Clara Sur, PILA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 342,000.00

UCPB LGN108 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/ L.A.
1,851.20 sqm. IMPROVEMENT
Lot 695-B, Brgy. Pooc, STA. ROSA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,897,000.00

UCPB LGN110 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 150 sqm.
ROMAVILLE SUBDIVISION, Sta. Rosa
MIN BID PRICE: P 400,500 00

UCPB LGN111 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A 433 sqm
Lot 7 Blk 5, CARDIL VILLAGE San Pablo
MIN. BID PRICE: P 945,000.00

UCPB LGN113 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 2,078 sqm.
RICHWOOD PARK VILLAGE, San Pablo
MIN BID PRICE. P 11,530,000.00

UCPB LGN114 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 150 sqm.
RICH WOOD PARK VILLAGE, San Pablo
MIN. BID PRICE: P 280.800.00

UCPB LGN115 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 238 sqm.
RICH WOOD PARK VILLAGE, San Pablo
MIN. BID PRICE: P 418,761.00

UCPB LGN116 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 249 sqm.
RICH WOOD PARK VILLAGE, San Pablo
MIN. BID PRICE: P 438,115.50

UCPB LGN117 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 150 sqm
RICH WOOD PARK VILLAGE, San Pablo
MIN. BID PRICE: P 281,070.00

UCPB LGN118 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 150 sqm.
RICH WOOD PARK VILLAGE, San Pablo
MIN. BID PRICE: P 281,070.00

UCPB LGN119 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
RICH WOOD PARK VILLAGE, San Pablo
MIN BID PRICE: P 527,850 00

UCPB LGN120 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 166 sqm.
RICH WOOD PARK VILLAGE, San Pablo
MIN BID PRICE. P 311,050 80

UCPB LGN121 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 300 sqm
RICH WOOD PARK VILLAGE, San Pablo
MIN BID PRICE. P 1,843,850.00

UCPB LGN122 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/
L.A. 370 sqm IMPROVEMENT
Lot 6 Blk 13, Mahalina St., San Antonio,
SAN PEDRO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,844,000.00

UCPB LGN123 - AGRO-INDUSTRIAL LOT
L.A. 60,000 sqm.
Bo. Patusan, STA. CRUZ
MIN BID PRICE: P 7,660,000.00

UCPB LGN124 - COMMERCIAL LOT W/
L.A. 336 sqm. IMPROVEMENT
ADELINA AGRI-VILL., Bo. Of Banca-Banca,
Victoria
MIN. BID PRICE: P 4,862,000.00

NAGA CITY

UCPB NC126 - 2-STRY HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 600 sqm.
Soriano St., VILLA SORABELLA SUBD
MIN BID PRICE: P 5,103,000.00

UCPB NC127 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 5,000 sqm.
Lot 3-B-4-C, Brgy. Triangulo,
MIN BID PRICE: P 18,000,000.00

UCPB NC128 - COMMERCIAL /
L.A. 5,500 sqm. RESIDENTIAL LOT
Brgy. Mabulo, NAGA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 8,910,000.00

UCPB NC129 - COMMERCIAL /
L.A. 5,000 sqm. RESIDENTIAL LOT
Brgy. Mabulo, NAGA
MIN BID PRICE: P 6,300,000.00

UCPB NC130 - GAS STATION W/BODEGA
& WAREHOUSE
L.A. 10,000 sqm.
Brgy. Mabulo, NAGA
MIN BID PRICE: P 20,700,000.00

UCPB NC131 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 4,455 sqm.
Along Isarog Ave., Brgy. Tinago,
MIN. BID PRICE: P 6,480,000.00

UCPB NC132 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 1.0074 sqm.
Pasacao-Pamplona Road, TAMBO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,530,000.00

UCPB NC133 - COMMERCIAL /
L.A. 3,378 sqm. RESIDENTIAL LOT
Along Nat'l Rd Labo, CAMARINES NORTE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 15,930,000.00

UCPB NC134 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 647 sqm.
Santol St., Liboton, NAGA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 891,000.00

UCPB NC135 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 2,633 sqm.
ROUVILLE SUBD., Bo. Tambo, Pamplona
MIN. BID PRICE: P 853,200

PANGASINAN

UCPB PSN138 - COMMERCIAL LOT W/
L.A. 6,098 sqm. IMPROVEMENT
Brgy. Talospatang, MALASIQUI
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,731,000.00

QUEZON PROVINCE

UCPB QP028 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 894 sqm.
Brgy. Iyam, LUCENA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 8,370,000.00

UCPB QP139 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/
L.A. 981 sqm IMPROVEMENT
UC COMPOUND, Brgy. Gulang-Gulang,
Lucena
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,820,000.00

UCPB QP140 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/
L.A. 869 sqm. IMPROVEMENT
UC COMPOUND, Brgy. Gulang-Gulang,
Lucena
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3.080,000.00

UCPB QP141 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 300 sqm
Lot 9 Blk 7, Brgy. Lagalag, TIAONG
MIN BID PRICE. P 67,500 00

UCPB QP142 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 258 sqm.
Brgy. Pahinga Norte, CANDELARIA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 75,400.74

UCPB QP143 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 220 sqm
Brgy. Pahinga Norte, CANDELARIA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 72,332 10

UCPB QP144 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 250 sqm.
SAN ISIDRO SUBD., Brgy. Gulang-gulang,
Lucena
MIN BID PRICE: P 484,524.85

UCPB QP145 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 180 sqm.
SAN ISIDRO SUBD., Brgy. Gulang-gulang,
Lucena
MIN. BID PRICE: P 387,619.88

UCPB QP146 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 480 sqm.
Purok Malahimik, Brgy. Cotta, LUCENA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,881,000.00

UCPB QP147 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/
L.A. 266 sqm IMPROVEMENT
MARILAG COMPOUND,
Brgy. Gulang-Gulang, Lucena
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,161,000.00

UCPB QP148 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
Brgy. Lagalag, TIAONG
MIN BID PRICE. P 72,900.00

UCPB QP149 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 3,959 sqm.
Bo. Dumacaa, LUCENA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,070,000.00

UCPB QP150 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 3, Brgy. Pahinga Norte,
CANDELARIA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 58,450 18

UCPB QP151 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
Purok Malahimik, Cotta, LUCENA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 710,149 86

UCPB QP152 - 11 DOOR APARTMENT
L.A. 45 sqm each
Purok Malahimik, Cotta LUCENA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 106,522 48 each

UCPB QP153 - APARTMENT
L.A. 73 sqm.
Purok Malahimik, Cotta, LUCENA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 172,803 13

UCPB QP154 - APARTMENT
L.A. 600 sqm.
Purok Malahimik, Cotta, LUCENA CITY
MIN BID PRICE: P 1,420,299.73

UCPB QP155 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 374 sqm.
CAPITOL HOMESITE SUBD., Cotta, Lucena
City
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,543,500.00

UCPB QP156 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 101 sqm F.A. 570
CAPITOL HOMESITE SUBD., Cotta, Lucena
City
MIN. BID PRICE: (CALL US)

UCPB QP157 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
Brgy. Lagalag, TIAONG
MIN BID PRICE: P 67,500.00

UCPB QP158 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 300 sqm
WEST GATE SUBD., Brgy. Lagalag, Tiaong
MIN. BID PRICE: P 72,000.00

UCPB QP159 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 17,129 sqm
Brgy. Isabang, TAYABAS
MIN. BID PRICE: P 10,404,000 00

UCPB QP160 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 216 sqm
Brgy. Pahinga Norte, CANDELARIA
MIN. BID PRICE. P 63,120.20

UCPB QP161 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 261 sqm
Brgy. Pahinga Norte, CANDELARIA
MIN. BID PRICE. P 85,812.18

UCPB QP162 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 200 sqm
Brgy. Pahinga Norte, CANDELARIA
MIN. BID PRICE P 58,450 18

UCPB QP163 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 4,431 sqm.
Brgy. Iyam, LUCENA CITY
MIN BID PRICE P 8,370,000.00

UCPB QP164 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 1508 sqm.
Brgy. Iyam, LUCENA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 4,261,500.00

CAINTA/BINANGONAN/SAN MATEO

UCPB RP165 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 204 sqm. (2 LOTS AVAILABLE)
Village East III, Darangan, BINANGONAN
MIN. BID PRICE: P 283,400.00 each

UCPB RP166 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 230 228 sqm.
Brgy. Gutmang Bayan, SAN MATEO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 8,287,200.00

UCPB RP167 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1,504 sqm.
Brgy. May-iba, TERESA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,245,600.00

SORSOGON CITY

UCPB SGN168 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 549 sqm.
Lot 2046, BRGY. BIBINCAHAN
MIN. BID PRICE: P 59,400.00

TAGAYTAY

UCPB TGY169 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 11,572 sqm.
Brgy. Maharlika East, TAGAYTAY CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 15,120,000.00

UCPB TGY170(A) - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 500 sqm. (Overlooking Taal Volcano)
PALM RIDGE, Metro Tagaytay
MIN. BID PRICE. P 936,000.00

UCPB TGY170(B) - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 444 sqm. (Overlooking Taal Volcano)
PALM RIDGE, Metro Tagaytay
MIN. BID PRICE: P 735,264.00

UCPB TGY170(C) - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 335 sqm. (Overlooking Taal Volcano)
PALM RIDGE, Metro Tagaytay
MIN. BID PRICE. P 627,120.00

UCPB TGY170(D) - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 398 sqm. (Overlooking Taal Volcano)
PALM RIDGE, Metro Tagaytay
MIN BID PRICE P 659,088.00

UCPB TGY170(E) - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 353 sqm. (Overlooking Taal Volcano)
PALM RIDGE, Metro Tagaytay
MIN. BID PRICE: P 660,816.00

TARLAC

UCPB TLC171 - INDUSTRIAL LOT W/
L.A. 18,432 sqm. IMPROVEMENT
Lot1-B, BRGY. SAN JUAN DE MATA
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,348,000 00

UCPB TLC172 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 712 sqm.
VILLA SOLIMAN SUBD., Brgy. Salapungan
MIN. BID PRICE. P 2,543,400.00

UCPB TLC173 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 3,379 sqm.
BRGY. SAN ISIDRO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,920,000 00

VISAYAS

AKLAN

UCPB AKN175 - RAWLAND
L.A. 18,245 sqm.
Lot E-7-C-2, Brgy. Bulwang, NUMANCIA
MIN. BID PRICE P 3,285,000 00

UCPB AKN176 - MEMORIAL PARK
L.A. 41,887 sqm.
Bo. Tigayon KALIBO
MIN. BID PRICE P 10,287,000.00

UCPB AKN177 - COMMERCIAL /
L.A. 460.50 sqm. RESIDENTIAL LOT
Lot 3460-F-1-A, Brgy. Andagao, KALIBO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,196,000 00

UCPB AKN189 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
MERCEDES VILLAGE, Kalibo
Min Bid Price: P935,000

UCPB_AKN 190 VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 266 sqm.
MERCEDES VILLAGE, Kalibo
Min Bid Price: P310,500

UCPB AKN191 VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 240 sqm.
MERCEDES VILLAGE, Kalibo
Min Bid Price: P279,000

UCPB AKN 192 VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 480 sqm
MERCEDES VILLAGE, Kalibo
Min Bid Price: P558,000

UCPB AKN193 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 480 sqm.
MERCEDES VILLAGE, Kalibo
Min Bid Price: P801,000

UCPB AKN194 VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1,001 sqm.
MERCEDES VILLAGE, Kalibo
Min Bid Price: P135,000

UCPB AKN195 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 844 sqm. (along Boracay Nat'l Road)
Brgy Manoc Manoc BORACAY ISLAND
Min Bid Price: P1,831,500

UCPB AKN196 GAS STATION w/ OFFICE/
L.A. 6,058 sqm WAREHOUSE
Nat'l Road, BRGY. CATICLAN, Malay
Min Bid Price: P10,845,000

ANTIQUE

UCPB ATQ178 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 16,182 sqm
Brgy. San Pedro, SAN JOSE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,002,500.00

BOHOL

UCPB, BHL197 COMMERCIAL. BLDG.
L.A. 1,891 sqm.
J.A. Clarin St., TAGBILARAN CITY
Min. Bid Price: P1,800,000

CAPIZ

UCPB CPZ179 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 380 sqm.
Lot 14 Blk 2, MERIAM SUBD.,
Brgy. Baybay, Roxas
MIN. BID PRICE: P 508,500.00

UCPB CPZ180 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 521 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk 3. ALTAVAS SUBD.,
Brgy. Baybay, Roxas City
MIN. BID PRICE. P 531,250.00

UCPB CPZ198 VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 329 sqm.
MERIAM PARK SUBD., Roxas City
Min. Bid Price: P414,000

UCPB CPZ199 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 150 sqm (3 lots Available).
PARAGON SUBD., Roxas City
Min. Bid Price P140,025 each

UCPB CPZ200 VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 186 sqm
PARAGON SUBD., Roxas City
Min. Bid Price. P75,300

UCPB CPZ201 VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 257 sqm
PARAGON SUBD., Roxas City
Min. Bid Price: P80,295

CEBU

UCPB CBU181 - COMMERCIAL /
L.A. 1,080 sqm RESIDENTIAL LOT
Lot 1, Brgy. Poblacion, MANDAUE CITY
MIN BID PRICE: P 10,200,000 00

UCPB CBU182 - 2-STRY COMML BLDG.
L.A. 508 sqm.
BRGY. PAHINA CENTRAL
MIN. BID PRICE P 6,900,000 00

UCPB CBU183 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 847 sqm
ESPINA VILLAGE, Guadalupe
MIN. BID PRICE P 2,863,000.00

UCPB_CBU202 VACANT COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 38,755 sqm
TRANSCENTRAL HIWAY, Brgy. Busay
Min. Bid Price: P22,400,000

ILOILO CITY

UCPB IC184 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 13,144 sqm.
Lot 4255, Brgy Poblacion Ilaya, CALINOG
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,326,000 00

UCPB IC185 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 6,521 sqm.
Lot 4432-A-5-1-A-3-E, Brgy. Poblacion Ilaya,
CALINOG
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,494,750.00

UCPB IC203 VACANT LOT
L.A. 10,000 sqm
JC Zulueta St., Oton
Min. Bid Price: P5,040,000

LEYTE

UCBP LYT204 VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 613 sqm. (various)
V & G BETTER HOMES SUBD., Tacloban City
Min Bid Price: P1,103,400 or P1,800 / sqm

UCBP LYT205 VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 600 sqm.
V & G BETTER HOMES SUBD., Tacloban City
Min Bid Price: P918,000

UCBP LYT206 VACANT RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1791 sqm. (various)
V & G BETTER HOMES SUBD., Tacloban City
Min Bid Price: P806,044.16 or P450 / sqm.

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

UCPB NO186 - SUGARLAND
L.A. 90,564 sqm.
Lot 2138-E, Brgy. Central Ma-Ao, BAGO CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,630,000.00

UCPB NO187 - RESIDENTIAL LOT W/
L.A. 1,000 sqm IMPROVEMENT
Lot 2 Blk 5, SAN SEBASTIAN SUBD.,
Bacolod City
MIN. BID PRICE: P 640,000.00

UCPB NO188 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1,000 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 5, SAN SEBASTIAN SUBD.,
Bacolod City
MIN. BID PRICE: 595,000.00

UCPB NO207 RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1,785sqm
Zircon St. City Hts, Subd Brgy. Taculing
Min Bid Price: P 2,916,000 00

UCPB NO208 1STRY RESIDENTIAL BLDG
L.A. 780sqm.
RHO & PHI St. GREENVILLE SUBD.
Min Bid Price: P 2,160,000.00

UCPB NO209 RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1,000sqm
C. Hidalgo Drive, MARAPARA HTS. SUBD
Min Bid Price: P 1,275,000.00

UCPB NO210 COMMERCIAL BLDG
L.A. 775sqm
Nat'l Rd. GATUSLAO ST. POB 4
Min Bid Price: P 3,663,000 00

UCPB NO211 RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 4,364sqm
ACACIA SUBD. Brgy. Gargato
Min Bid Price: P 234,000.00

UCPB NO212 2 STR'Y RESIDENTIAL BLDG
L.A. 356sqm
P. KATILINGBAN Zone 3. Bala Subd.
Min Bid Price: P 1,476,000 00

UCPB NO213 2 STR'Y COMMERCIAL BLDG
L.A. 353sqm
M L QUEZON St., Poblacion Guihulngan
Min Bid Price: P 1,872,000 00

MINDANAO

BUKIDNON

UCPB BKN189 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 263 sqm.
Sumpong, MALAYBALAY CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 95,000.00

UCPB BKN190 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 2,401 sqm.
Lumbo, VALENCIA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE. P 431,648.74

UCPB BKN191 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 969 sqm
Lumbo, VALENCIA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 174,205.59

UCPB BKN192 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 969 sqm
Lumbo, VALENCIA CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 174,205.59

UCPB BKN193 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 2,169 sqm.
Lumbo, VALENCIA CITY
MIN BID PRICE: P 389,940.07

UCPB BKN194 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 984 sqm.
Brgy. Panadtalan, MARAMAG
MIN. BID PRICE. P 159,536.03

UCPB BKN195 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 760 sqm.
Brgy. Panadtalan, MARAMAG
MIN BID PRICE P 123,218.88

UCPB BKN196 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 700 sqm.
Brgy. Panadtalan, MARAMAG
MIN BID PRICE. P 113,491.08

UCPB BKN197 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 972 sqm
Brgy. Panadtalan, MARAMAG
MIN. BID PRICE: P 157,590.47

UCPB BKN198 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 798 sqm.
Brgy. Panadtalan, MARAMAG
MIN. BID PRICE: P 129,379.83

UCPB BKN199 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 920 sqm.
Brgy. Panadtalan, MARAMAG
MIN BID PRICE P 149,159 70

UCPB BKN200 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 950 sqm.
Brgy. Panadtalan, MARAMAG
MIN. BID PRICE. P 154,023.61

UCPB BKN201 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 900 sqm
Brgy. Panadtalan, MARAMAG
MIN. BID PRICE: P 145,917.10

UCPB BKN202 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 970 sqm.
Brgy. Panadtalan, MARAMAG
MIN. BID PRICE P 157,266.21

UCPB BKN203 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 900 sqm.
Brgy. Panadtalan, MARAMAG
MIN. BID PRICE P 145,917.10

COTABATO

UCPB CBT204 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 460 sqm.
Quezon Ave., POBLACION
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,910,000 00

UCPB CBT206 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 2,700 sqm.
COTABATO CITY, Maguindanao
MIN. BID PRICE P 15,370,000.00

UCPB CBT207 - 1-STRY RSDL BLDG.
L.A. 410 sqm
ROSARY HEIGHTS
MIN. BID PRICE. P 1,062,000.00

UCPB CBT208 - 4 UNITS COMML BLDG.
L.A. 1,794 sqm W/ FIRE BRIGADE
COTABATO CITY, Maguindanao
MIN. BID PRICE: P 14,751,000.00

UCPB CBT209 - 1-STRY RSDL BLDG
L.A. 116 sqm.
BANAS SUBDIVISION, Rosary Heights
MIN BID PRICE P 1,080,000 00

UCPB_CBT210 - 1 UNIT COMML BLDG.
L.A. 860 sqm.
Cotabato City, MAGUINDANAO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 5,760,000.00

UCPB CBT211 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 315 sqm.
ARTIEDA SUBD., Koronadal
MIN. BID PRICE: P 170,100.00

UCPB CBT212 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 506 sqm.
CASA SUBD., Koronadal
MIN. BID PRICE: P 258,400.00

UCPB CBT213 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 228 sqm.
GUANZON SUBD., Brgy. Morales, Koronadal
MIN. BID PRICE. P 77,350.00

UCPB CBT214 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1,039 sqm.
GUANZON SUBD., Brgy. Morales, Koronadal
MIN. BID PRICE: P 288,000.00

UCPB CBT215 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1,000 sqm.
CASA SUBD., Koronadal
MIN. BID PRICE: P 400,500.00

UCPB CBT216 - 2-STRY RSDL BLDG.
L.A. 968 sqm.
Poblacion, KIDAPAWAN CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 824,500.00

UCPB CBT217 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 4,908 sqm.
Brgy. San Isidro, KORONADAL CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 416,500.00

UCPB_CBT218 - INDUSTRIAL LOT W/
L.A. 4,374 sqm. IMPROVEMENT
Bo. Sto. Niño, KORONADAL CITY
MIN BID PRICE P 2 125.800 00

LANAO DEL NORTE

UCPB LDN229 -2-STRY INDL BLDG.
L.A. 20,457 sqm.
Brgy. Tipanoy, ILIGAN CITY
MIN. BID PRICE. P 15,277,500.00

UCPB LDN230 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 768 sqm.
Camague Tomnobo, ILIGAN CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,214,000.00

DAVAO

UCPB DAV222 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 88,762 sqm.
Talomo Dist., DAVAO CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 75,600,000.00

UCPB DAV226 - 2-STRY RSDL BLDG.
L.A. 300 sqm.
EVERLY HILLS SUBD., Davao City
MIN. BID PRICE. P 2.475,000.00

UCPB DAV228 - COMMERCIAL LOT
L.A. 5,000 sqm.
Lanang, DAVAO CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 20,500,000 00

UCPB DAV219 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 126 sqm.
DINA VILL SUBDIVISION, Ma-a
MIN. BID PRICE. P 90,350 06

UCPB DAV220 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
Lot 3. POBLACION
MIN. BID PRICE: P 385,714.29

UCPB DAV221 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 400 sqm.
Lot 2, POBLACION
MIN. BID PRICE: P 514,285.71

UCPB DAV223 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 381 sqm.
Brgy. Matiao, Mati
MIN. BID PRICE: P 162,225.42

UCPB DAV224 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 363 sqm.
Brgy. Matiao, Mati,
MIN. BID PRICE: P 154,561 22

UCPB DAV225 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 334 sqm
Brgy. Matiao, Mati
MIN. BID PRICE: P 142,213.36

UCPB DAV227 - INDUSTRIAL LOT W/
L.A. 85,086 sqm. WAREHOUSE
BRGY. BUNAWAN
MIN. BID PRICE. P 43,400,000.00

MISAMIS ORIENTAL

UCPB MO231 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 33,576 sqm.
Bo. Pagahan, INITAO
MIN. BID PRICE. P 10,110,000.00

UCPB MO232 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 17,609 sqm
Bo. Taytay, EL SALVADOR
MIN. BID PRICE P 2,412.000.00

UCPB MO239 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 1,015.725 sqm
Sitio Tulahon, Bo. Malanang, OPOL
MIN. BID PRICE. P 77,157,000.00

CAGAYAN DE ORO

UCPB MO233 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 729 sqm.
Lot7 Blk 23, XAVIER ESTATES, CDO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 2,024,000.00

UCPB MO234 - 2-STRY RSDL BLDG.
L.A. 25,225 sqm.
Brgy. Macasandig, CDO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 8,456,172.85

UCPB MO235 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 7,941 sqm.
Brgy. Macasandig, CDO
MIN. BID PRICE. P 2,062,060.20

UCPB MO236 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 17,629 sqm.
Brgy. Macasandig, CDO
MIN. BID PRICE. P 5,909,766.95

UCPB MO237 - 1-STRY RSDL BLDG.
L.A. 400 sqm.
APOVEL SUBD., Bulua, CDO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,960,000.00

UCPB MO238 - 1-STRY RSDL BLDG.
L.A. 960 sqm.
Kauswagan, CDO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 720,000.00

UCPB MO240 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 236 sqm.
Interior of Bulua, CDO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 216,000.00

UCPB MO241 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 523 sqm.
Sitio Busong, Bo. Macasandig, CDO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 234,000 00

UCPB MO242 - AGRICULTURAL LOT
L.A. 75,982 sqm.
Upper Dolawan, Lumbia, CDO
MIN. BID PRICE: P 5,706,000.00

SULTAN KUDARAT

UCPB SK243 - 3-STRY COMML BLDG.
L.A. 340 sqm.
TACURONG CITY, Isulan
MIN. BID PRICE: P 7,870,000.00

SURIGAO DEL NORTE

UCPB SDN244 - 1-STRY RESIDENTIAL /
L.A. 541 sqm. COMMERCIAL BLDG
Borromeo St., SURIGAO CITY
MIN. BID PRICE: P 3,140,000.00

UCPB SDN245 - RESIDENTIAL LOT
L.A. 450 sqm.
Brgy. Cagniog, SURIGAO CITY
MIN BID PRICE P 67,500.00

UCPB SDN246 - 1-STRY RSDL BLDG.
L.A. 757 sqm.
QUANO CENIZA HTS. SUBD. Surigao City
MIN BID PRICE P 2,130,000.00

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Key to success

From page B1

when she was working and she enrolled for an MA in Filipino Literature although she did not finish the course. "I was very interested in the language."

Her unforgettable teachers included Doreen Fernandez and Fr. Roque Ferriols.

Her advertising career took on a straight path and after two years, she moved to PAC where she became associate creative director. She stayed at PAC for 22 years and only moved when she was offered the creative director post at Image Dimensions, where she eventually became its president. In September 2001, she moved to Dentsu Philippines.

Advertising is largely creative work and Nonna would consider even moving to the administrative side of the business as this is still creative.

"Managing an agency is still creative. You create an environment for people to do their best. You create an opportunity in the environment for the talents you have."

To Nonna, the key to success in the advertising industry is natural curiosity.

"If you're creative, you have a natural curiosity about everything. You do not just focus on the end product but on the client's business," she says.

Plus, a passion for working with people, which Nonna has, helps, of course.

"To manage people, you have to be creative," she says.

On the competitive side of the advertising world, Nonna points out, consumers can no longer be lumped into age groups as was the trend in the past.

"You look at their behavior—those with similar behaviors" are the groups.

And she says it is from these insights about consumers' behavior that you get the ideas for ads.

She cites a new milk brand they are launching. They gleaned that the behavior of first-time moms was different from second and third timers.

They also learned that for first-time moms, the pediatrician was like a god and they followed everything the doctor told them to use or buy. Second-time mothers were harder to convince to shift to another brand, so you had to get them at the start.

They used these insights to launch the new milk product. And they were successful.

Nonna is still far from retirement. She only turns 49 next month.

But there is something she would like to do when she retires—write food reviews.

One of the works she takes pride in is a food article published in the INQUIRER called 'Shoveling it in Pala Pala'.

Pink world in a box

NELLY SEE

NELLY SEE, A YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR IN her 30s and a mother of four, sees her world in pink. And to put her thoughts in one place she decided to call her business PinkBox.

Nelly's venture was born out of her passion for hair accessories. Finding herself with more time while affiliated with Sunlife, she told her husband she wanted to have a business since her kids were already going to school. Her husband and their broker suggested that she get into something very familiar to her—hair accessories. And thus began her journey into the mall retailing industry.

She bought P800,000 worth of stocks from abroad. Her goods were about to be delivered when her husband pointed out the obvious—she didn't have a store.

Within three weeks, she conceptualized everything—the packaging, the pricing, the requirements. She got her two housemaids to help her with everything. By November 2002 she opened her first cart at Glorietta simultaneously with a kiosk in Robinsons Galleria.

She finally got a 13-sq.m. space at SM Bicutan which most of her colleagues and friends advised her against taking it. But she took the risk. "Opportunities don't find you, you find your opportunities, because if you wait for the right opportunity, the opportunity may never come or may come too late. In this real world it's not the smart who get ahead but the bold."

At present her 12 stores/kiosks are in four SM Malls, 3 Robinsons Malls, The Podium, Gateway, Glorietta and Ayala Pavillion Mall and Sta. Lucia East. By year end she will be in three more SM Malls, and Shangri-La Plaza.

"From the day the two stores opened at the Glorietta and Robinsons Galleria, I received several inquiries, business cards and contacts for possible franchise deals. Some of them asked for wholesale. I got all these information but never took it seriously. Then Francorp called late last year, and again that took a backseat."

The queries never stopped. Then realizing the opportunities missed, she took time to ink the deal.

"There were so many of them lined up for this year and I was thinking of market saturation. You see, I'm a small time player in this fighting two very entrenched competitors. You wouldn't know, in this business, in 2 to 3 years there might just be a new player better than you, more creative and innovative than you so we decided to launch the franchise last July 14 at the World Trade Center."

Nelly considers her franchisees as business partners. They have to be hands on as well. She encourages feedback.

"You build your organization. This involves working areas of excellence—in management, products, service, operations, because nobody can achieve it alone. Manage the people that manage the team, because the best thing is to have people who can do your job better work for you.

Franchisee package ranging from P650,000 to P750,000 for kiosks, P1.5M to P1.8M for stores, inclusive of the P175,000 franchise fee, initial stock for two months, kiosk, store renovation, training, site evaluation, opening assistance. The contract is good for 5 years, renewable to a maximum of 15 years.

Her popularly prized products are also continuously evolving and every quarter, designs change.

She has franchise queries from the United States, Australia, Indonesia, Singapore, Dubai. She is geared towards the offer to set up a US branch.

Nelly views the economic slumps as an opportunity to help provide employment.

"When I see my products, I see my hard work and I'm more inspired to create and innovate."

For franchise inquiries, call 8339375, 8339265, 0922-8339265.

Small ventures get shot at online marketing

LIZA DE LOS REYES

FOR BUSINESSES THAT TARGET those with disposable incomes but are burdened by the rising cost of marketing, a new service called Message Guru may provide the answer.

Message Guru is the first locally developed application that allows organizations to start a customer relationship program by providing tools to build a customer database, launch e-mail marketing campaigns and view campaign performance results. Automatic delivery of timed campaigns, forwarding and opt-out functions are built-in.

The service can be used as a communications tool for promotions, product and service announcements, invitations, surveys and more. Message Guru fosters relationship building, two-way communications and data mining at a fraction of the cost of traditional advertising.

For businesses that have an existing database, this is the tool to effectively put it to use and grow it, and for those without one, this is the tool to build it.

Built on an ASP or application service provider (ASP) model, Message Guru offers individuals or enterprises access over the Internet to the service that would otherwise have to be located in their own personal or enterprise computers. The service is on 24/7 and can be accessed through any browser-equipped PC connected to the Internet. A minimal monthly subscription fee is charged.

Build a database and use it, says Liza de los Reyes, chief operating officer of IT company Asiagate Networks Inc., Message Guru is ideal for strengthening a company's relationship with the buyer after the initial sale or contact.

With the service, the user can collect a range of information about the customer, from contact information to very specific data unique to his organization and store it in his Message Guru account without any special software or advanced technical skills. From here, individual contacts may be classified into customized groups.

De los Reyes says that it is possible to store data unique to particular enterprise. "For example, companies in the hospitality industry may want to note a customer's favorite restaurant or room, for instance, and keep it in their database. When the user has a product geared for that particular user or group, he can communicate to them in a click," she adds.

Database building does not require advanced computer skills, according to de los Reyes. "For as long as you know how to use the computer, you can start building your database in no time, and if you have a list in Excel, Word, or any text file, you can easily upload it for immediate use," she says.

In the Inbox

Messages are delivered to contact lists through highly visual and engaging e-mail newsletters. E-mail campaigns have the advantage of delivering more information-rich material to recipients and encourage two-way communication.

Message Guru allows the user to use professionally designed templates or build his own through a simple and familiar interface. Custom content such as logos, text, links, images, tables and even Flash animations can be incorporated in the email.

De los Reyes says that an hour of training may be required to use the system.

Further, the delivery of each campaign can be timed. Message Guru has a built-in autoscheduler which allows the user to create his campaigns in advance and schedule delivery for a certain period or season.

More importantly, the service can also turn a campaign "viral." If a company's message is of particular interest to a group of people, a recipient can forward it to his contacts.

Meanwhile, opt-out functions are also built-in to respect the recipient's rights to not receive any information.

Results Online, Ontime Message Guru provides real time performance reports to keep track of each campaign.

The service records the number of e-mails sent, open and forward rates, opt-outs and bounce backs. A user will be able to determine who is highly interested in the service as Message Guru can track contacts who read the email multiple times.

According to De los Reyes, the aggressive marketing and pricing models for Internet connectivity offered by the country's telecommunications are driving more Filipinos to go online. She explains that though the Internet penetration in the country is low compared to the rest in the region, the users are educated, have spending power, and have adopted the Internet as a major tool for communications, research and even entertainment. And take-up is rising steadily.

In 2004, the number of Internet users in the Philippines went up to 11.8 million compared to 3.2 million in 2002. *For inquiries please call 7524969/71/72 or visit www.messageguru.com.ph.*

Pickled goods bring fresh hope …

From page B10

seaweeds, Calaca has been known for its perfect blend of the achara—as the sweet, sour, salty and spicy appetizer goes well with every roasted, fried and even stewed viand.

"From the most expensive *lechon*, which is considered as the queen of every feast table, to the lowly fried *tuyo*, achara blends well and brings out the goodness in every food that it is paired with," Mayor Ona said.

Calaqueños have long embraced achara as its staple "pampagana" or appetizer.

Calaca's achara has, for decades, been commonly eaten with grilled, fried seafood or meal, and has been the centerpiece of every local meal.

Special gatherings or feasts have always provided the venue for every home to showcase their own homemade achara. Nowadays, it is eaten with anything and in any manner.

The first achara festival would give the Calaqueños a bigger venue to showcase their town's treasure.

According to Alice Cabrera, an agricultural technologist in town, all of Calaca's residents make achara and that nine out of the ten makers sell their achara right inside their homes or stores in town.

"Most of our achara makers have even sold their product to other towns while the others have reached the stores of Metro Manila," Cabrera said, "And now, we have already organized them and made better packaging for the product that we're planning to sell nationwide."

Cabrera said they had formed the Calaca Achara Makers Assocation (Cama), which has already organized the town's 26 biggest achara producers to join the festival and boost their production.

"We have even packed achara in sachets that cost only P5, plastic pouch packs for P30, and foil packs for P60, while our achara in cute jars sell for P50," Cabrera said, "there are also bigger jars that cost more."

Ingredients

Cabrera said the most widely produced achara is the papaya because of its abundance throughout the year.

Labong, ubod, amplaya and seaweeds are pickled only in seasons when they are most abundant.

Labong or bamboo shoots is abundant only from June to August, while the ubod or coconut pith is available only when a coconut farmer cuts down a coconut tree. Seaweeds are available only once a year while the amplaya is still being studied.

The most salable of all is the pickled papaya.

Papaya is abundant in the town's upland farms where the elevation, sulphuric soil and climate are perfect for growing the crop.

The rest of the ingredients, such as vinegar, ginger, garlic, onion and chili comes from the flat lands of Calaca. The flatlands' sandy-loam soil is perfect for growing the spices.

Even the sugar and sugarcane vinegar are sourced from the town's sugarcane fields.

"The ingredients are all sourced right here in Calaca, that's why our achara is best produced here," the mayor said, "Here, the achara makers can get all their ingredients fresh from the farms."

Male, female achara

There are two kinds of pickled papaya. According to Magdalena Bacal, 67, oldest achara maker, there are actually the male and the female achara.

"The female achara is wide and thick, while the male achara is the thin and slim one," Bacal said in Filipino.

Asked what happens if the male and female achara are joined, she said, "the blend becomes a couple."

Bacal has been in the achara business for more than 30 years and has been producing 200 kilos of achara every month. She learned achara making from her mother-in-law.

Like all the achara makers of Calaca, Bacal said the business had helped her send her four children to school.

And when they finished college, she still operated the business, which turned out to be her passion.

The oldest restaurant in town, the Moral Sari-Sari Store and Restaurant in front of the Calaca Rural Bank, the town's oldest bank, has been serving food with achara since the 1970s.

"Food just tastes so complete with achara," Lydia Malapitan, the restaurant owner's sister, said. "Without achara, the dining experience is not complete. And we're in the business of making sure every customer gets the complete dining satisfaction."

Festival

Deovic Ontangco, municipal information officer, said the word achara came from the *ancharap* or *ansarap*, the Tagalog word for delicious—that means truly delicious.

"Achara brings out the goodness in every food, that's why if there is no achara in the fiesta table, the food doesn't taste as good," he said.

Ontangco said the achara has no wastage. Even its sauce can be used as replacement for the pickles in cooking caldereta.

"When bottled, our achara can last for two years," he boasted.

According to Ona, the festival is just the start of boosting the achara business.

The mayor said that with the festival, Calaca expects to be recognized as the home of the country's best achara.

"We're also hoping that our town's product can go places," he said, "That way, our people could earn more from achara making. It's amazing to know that some people from Manila, who come to Tagaytay or the Taal Basilica on weekends, come to Calaca just to buy our achara. If we can boost and improve our production, it could mean more income, more jobs and recognition for our town." ***Mei Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

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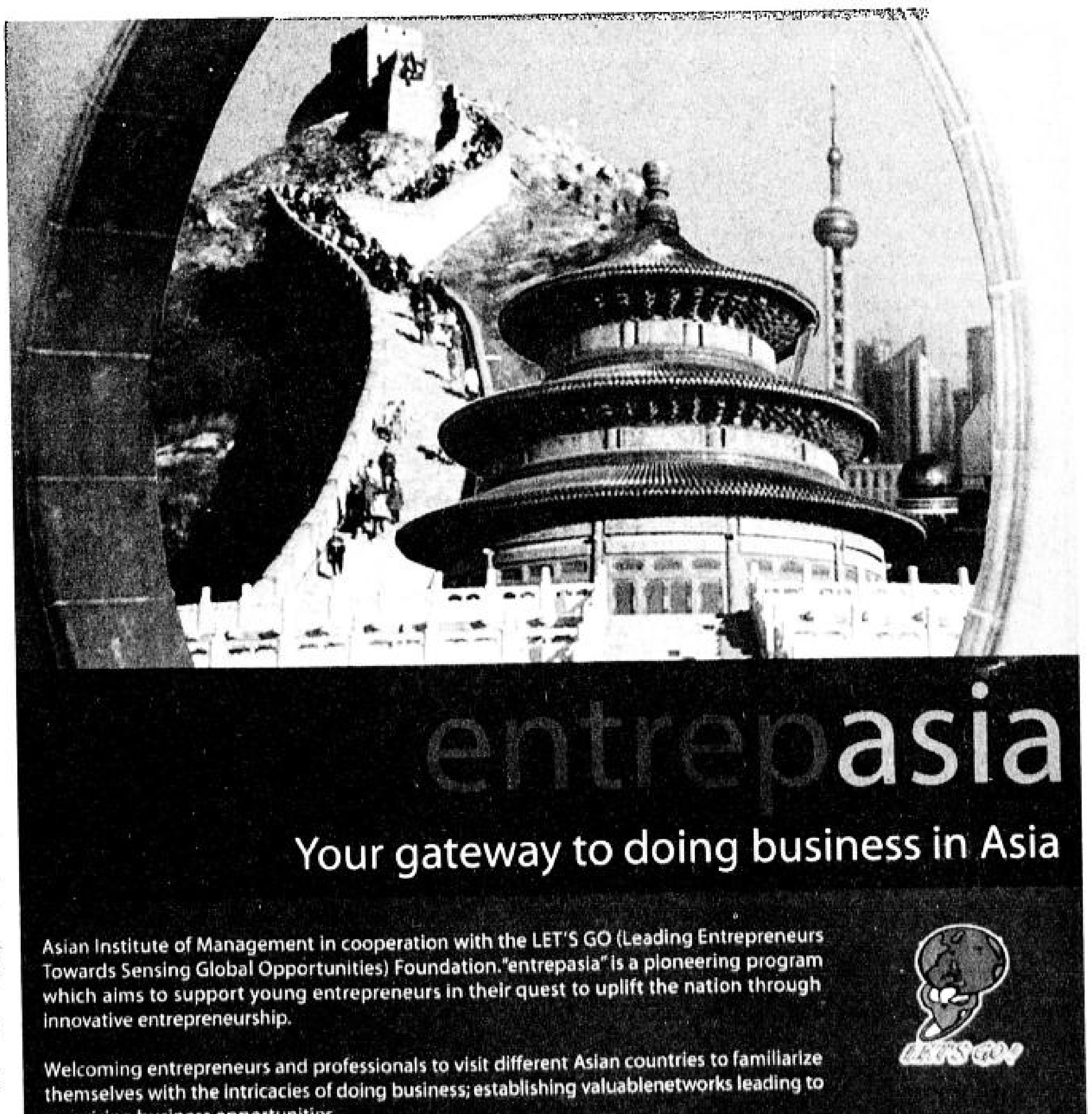

AIM

Asian Institute of Management in cooperation with the LET'S GO (Leading Entrepreneurs Towards Sensing Global Opportunities) Foundation."entrepasia" is a pioneering program which aims to support young entrepreneurs in their quest to uplift the nation through innovative entrepreneurship.

Welcoming entrepreneurs and professionals to visit different Asian countries to familiarize themselves with the intricacies of doing business; establishing valuablenetworks leading to promising business opportunities.

Beijing - Shanghai : December 11 to 17, 2005
Vietnam - Thailand : January 22 to 28, 2006

EQUIS ACCREDITED

For inquiries, call the entrepasia secretariat:
Dainty San Jose | Tammy Brittanico | May Pagkatipunan
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rsanjose@mail.aim.edu. | mpagkatipunan@mail.aim.edu.
www.aim.edu/entrepasia

GSK launches Family Vaccines

WHEN ILLNESS STRIKES, IT DOES not make any distinction between men, women or children. The moment a family member suffers from a disease, others get affected in more ways than one, especially if the disease is contagious and could be passed on to others. What's more, illness can also put a strain on the family's finances, as money meant for other basic necessities such as food, clothing and education, will have to be spent on treatment and medication or in worse cases, hospitalization.

Preventing disease is therefore important, and a way to do this is through vaccination, widely acknowledged as an effective prevention measure that has saved millions of lives, particularly those of infants and children. GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), a leading research-based pharmaceutical company, has launched the GSK Family Vaccines, a new concept that aims to engage and educate both doctors and families about the need to protect families from preventable diseases through vaccination.

Under the GSK Family Vaccines Program, quality vaccines as well as educational materials on immunization and vaccine-preventable diseases are made available to the health-conscious public. Clinics and hospitals nationwide will provide information on appropriate vaccines for each family member. Families are encouraged to consult with their doctors about vaccines that are appropriate for their age and lifestyle.

According to Dr. Derrick Sim, regional manager medical affairs - vaccines, the GSK Family Vaccines Program is the company's response to ensure that Filipinos are protected from vaccine-preventable illnesses through safe and effective vaccines. "People think vaccination is only for children, not realizing that adults as much as children need protection from such diseases as chicken pox, hepatitis A & B, influenza, polio, measles and others that can be contracted by anyone regardless of age. In fact some of these infections, such as chicken pox and hepatitis A, often cause more severe disease in adults compared to children," Dr. Sim said.

"As a leading vaccine manufacturer, GSK is committed not only to provide trusted, quality vaccines, but also to facilitate continuing medical education for doctors regarding vaccination, so that they are better able to protect their patients and their families against infectious diseases. By keeping abreast of developments in the rapidly growing preventative health field, doctors will be better able to prevent disease and keep families well. Optimizing health and well-being is a priority for most Filipino families nowadays, and vaccines offer both adults and children the opportunity to do so," Dr. Sim added.

The GSK Family Vaccines program offers a wide range of vaccines for both adults and children, including vaccines for hepatitis B, influenza, hepatitis A, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps and rubella, typhoid, and chicken pox.

For infants and toddlers, the line-up of vaccines include a variety of vaccines, including combination vaccines, to protect against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, hepatitis B, haemophilus influenza type B or Hib and polio.

Through the Family Vaccines program, Filipinos are given the option to protect themselves from communicable diseases through quality, research-based vaccines that have been proven safe and effective through rigorous processes and numerous clinical trials. Families may confidently approach their doctors to obtain information about the benefits of vaccination and what vaccines are appropriate for each member of the family.

VISA
All it takes.
NEX - VISA MOA Signing
Polo Club
2005

VISA INTERNATIONAL, JFINEX MOA SIGNING

Visa International and the Junior Financial Executives Institute (JFINEX) recently signed a Memorandum of Agreement marking the partnership between the two parties. This will give Visa the opportunity to further promote myMoneySkills.com as a tool for students and young professionals to maintain their financial health and well-being, as it sponsors the 7th Inter Collegiate Finance Competition (ICFC). The partnership will likewise help JFINEX to promote an awareness and appreciation of financial management in economic and business affairs as well as encourage networking among students and young professionals with finance practitioners and business professionals. Photo shows (from left): JFINEX chair Antonio Ramon T. Ongsiako, Visa senior business development manager Antoinette G. Lao, Finex president Melito S. Salazar, and fineX VP for External affairs Esther P. Magleo.

Matrix CRDI: More than meets the eye

BENEATH THE UNASSUMING APPEARANCE of the Matrix CRDi is a fierce machine ready to transport its passengers at an unbelievable speed, stability and fuel efficiency.

Fuel economy tests conducted by HARI technicians and verified by motoring journalists from the Car Awards Group Inc (CAGI) have produced consistently excellent results for the Matrix CRDi. For instance, on a long drive of 88-kilometers where driving conditions were controlled (minimal traffic, speed at 0-80kph, rpm at 2,000rpm), a CAGI representative was able to get 25.1-kilometers to a liter. Another CAGI tester achieved 24.33-km/li., while Hyundai tests produced 21.69km/li.

Driving through about 60+ kilometers of heavy traffic in city driving tests, HARI and CAGI tests resulted in average fuel efficiency of 13.34km/li. Meanwhile, combined city, highway and uphill driving through 180 kilometers produced fuel efficiency test results of 15.22-km/li. average for HARI and CAGI testers.

Unlike current engines which rely on an indirect injection of an air and fuel mixture, the common rail (CRDI) engine delivers vaporized fuel, attained by applying high pressure, directly to the cylinders (direct injection), hence increasing fuel efficiency to an ideal level. High pressure fuel produced by the fuel pump is sent to an accumulator, and the state of the engine is analyzed by the ECU, which precisely controls timing, amount, and pressure before injecting fuel into the cylinder.

Moreover, the Matrix CRDi's variable geometry turbine (VGT) uses a more effective, though complex, method of turbocharging using a turbine stage where the swallowing capacity is automatically varied while the engine is running. This permits turbine power to be set to provide just sufficient energy to drive the compressor at the desired boost level wherever the engine is operating.

Variable Geometry Turbocharging yields several benefits in engine matching, including: good transient response, fuel economy, increased useful engine operating speed range, enhanced compression brake capability, and high-pressure ratio compressors.

Along with the cutting-edge features of the Matrix CRDi such as the 4-wheel independent suspension, power steering, power windows, power side mirrors, and center console with power outlet, the new Matrix CRDi comes with dual bulb headlamps, redesigned fog lamps, and new fabric seat design.

1ST ASIAN CARRIERS CONFERENCE

Commission on Information and Communications Technology Commissioner Damian Domingo O. Mapa and PLDT and Smart president and CEO Napoleon L. Nazareno, (front row, 9th and 8th from left respectively) prepare to cut the ceremonial ribbon for the opening of exhibits at the 1st Asian Carriers Conference at the Shangri-la Mactan Island Resort. More than 150 delegates from 19 countries attended this international conference facilitated by PLDT to discuss significant developments in the telecommunications industry that could help spur economic development and business success.

Coffee as rich as its culture

INSPIRED BY THE NUMEROUS ISLES AND INland roads of the Southeast Asian region is a quaint café that showcases coffee as rich as its culture. Raan Coffee and Desserts offers coffee concoctions based on a unique Raan blend, custom roasted to reflect what is truly Southeast Asian. It combines the aromatics of the arabica bean, with the body of robusta beans and the strength of our very own liberica bean. This gives the basic Espresso, Latte and Americano a unique twist. Derived from the Thai word for "shop," Raan also offers the famous Vietnamese Iced Coffee -strong java on individual glass top brewers served with iced milk syrup that will inspire you the whole day. Raan also serves the special Tsoknat Coffee- a chocolate and peanut infused brew. From Raan's ovens come an array of cookies and baked products like Kashmiri Crunch-a cashew cookie with a hint of curry and Mandarin Sesame Crumble-an orange-studded scotch bread. Special sandwiches with flavors of the orient as well as Asian pasta creations go well with a cup of java. From this quaint corner comes the Southeast Asian principle of perfection in simplicity. There's more to discover at Raan Coffee Desserts, 122 Jupiter Street, Bel-Air Village, Makati City. Monday afternoons are special with Tarot card reading sessions that unravel what tomorrow brings.

FILIPINO WINS HONORS IN IMLI

Lawyer Josephine Marie G. Uranza graduated May 14 with a Master of Laws degree in International Maritime Law from the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), University of Malta Campus. Graduating With Distinction, she was the only Filipino in the Institute thus honored. She also won the Walter Müller Award for Best Legislation, again a first for a Filipino graduate of the Institute

Star Alliance finalizes deal with Amadeus

STAR ALLIANCE, THE AIRLINE NETWORK for Earth, together with member carriers Lufthansa and United is creating a next generation technology platform for passenger service systems in the airline industry. For this, the parties have jointly selected Amadeus, the travel information technology provider, to build a Common IT Platform for the alliance. This deal will see Lufthansa and United replace their own legacy IT systems, with expansion to other members being planned.

Commenting on the decision, Jaan Albrecht, Star Alliance CEO said: "The Star Alliance Common IT Platform represents the realization of a long time strategic goal, driven by the effort to better serve the customer, significantly lower IT costs and dramatically increase the speed of delivering new products to market."

On behalf of Amadeus, José Antonio Tazón, president and CEO, said: "We are proud to have been chosen above some of the world's most prestigious IT providers. This announcement underlines the unique value offered by our Altéa suite of IT solutions for airlines and alliances in today's competitive environment."

Lufthansa and United will replace their current legacy systems with one technology platform based on industry leading products and state of the art technology. The new system has been developed to better meet the customer demands in today's changing market environment, while at the same time permitting the member carriers to substantially reduce costs.

While the carriers' current IT systems all use different technologies, the new platform is based on a common technical infrastructure and software. The heart of the new system offers enhanced customer service functionalities, specifically for both sales and airport environments, and includes such transactions as schedule, availability, inventory, reservations, fare quote and ticketing as well as passenger check-in. The improvement in customer service will come through ease of use as well as through common and better quality of data which the airline service agents will be able to access when dealing with alliance customers.

Costs savings in a variety of different ways will be brought about by the Common IT Platform, which has been created using state of the art technology. These encompass the initial development costs, running costs and costs for future enhancements. The automation of business processes will also lead to further cost-savings. Additionally, the platform will enable the carriers to improve speed to market for the introduction of new products or functionalities.

"The Common IT Platform is a good example of how we envisage future co-operation within the alliance. Up to now, we have very often worked on ensuring that existing products could be made 'alliance compatible'. With common IT we have looked at implementing an alliance product for our member carriers straight from the outset," said Jaan Albrecht, Star Alliance CEO.

Lufthansa will begin transitioning the first functions from its current system to the Common IT Platform in the second half of 2006 and expects to complete migration by the end of 2007. United is presently finalizing its migration timeline.

Implementation requirements and plans are being developed to extend the reach of this industry leading concept to other Star Alliance members in the near future.

GOLDILOCKS AWARDED BY NMIS

After a thorough evaluation by National Meat Inspection Services (NMIS) auditors, the food processing plant of Goldilocks was awarded full 'Good Manufacturing Practices' (GMP) accreditation. Moreover, the agency determined that the production, processing, storage, and distribution systems within the plant readily qualified it for 'Standard Sanitation Operating Procedures' (SSOP) certification. To date, the Goldilocks plant is only the 73rd facility to be given full GMP and SSOP accreditation.

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AMERICAN EXPRESS LAUNCHES DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

American Express Bank Philippines introduces the Peso-Cash Plus and Dollar Wealth Plus, two deposit products that have access to top-performing investments. In a press briefing, Ian Fish (center) notes that the total trust fund market amounts to 330 billion pesos, of which only 10 percent are invested in UITF or Unit Investment Trust Fund. American Express products are supportive of the BSP's directive to convert all CTF to UITF by 1 October 2006. With Fish are other bank officials (from left) Juancho Cagampan, Stella Sampayan, Patty Henson and Rossana Chan.

KELAKAN WELCOMED

Roberto de Ocampo (second from right), president of the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), and Ramon del Rosario Jr. (right), chair of the board of advisors of AIM - Ramon del Rosario Sr. Center for Corporate Responsibility (AIM-RVR Center), welcome Hon. IGN. Kesuma Kelakan, Vice Governor of Bali, to the 3rd Managing Corporate Governance in Asia conference held recently in Bali Indonesia. Kelakan delivered the keynote address during the forum

ProductFiles

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PAC EUROPEAN TOUR KICK-OFF CONCERT

The Philippine Adventist Chorale will have its concert 'In His Glory' today at the Cultural Center of the Philippines main theater. This event kicks off its European tour which brings them to Spain, Portugal, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom. The tour is organized by the Philippine Adventist Church of Pasay City headed by Ambassador of Goodwill Gion Gounet (front row, 6th from right) as the overall organizing committee chair and engineer Henry James Aralan (back row, left), socials and events chair. Co-sponsors are the Euro-African Division of the Seventh Day Adventist Church and the Philippine Embassy in the countries to be visited. The PAC musical director is professor Erlinda Mathay-Corral (7th from left, front row), and professor Harold Perfecto Galang, dean, College of Music and Conservatory of the Philippine Women's University (6th from left, front row), is accompanying pianist. The group will leave for Europe Nov. 18.

SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Building 255 Barryman Road,
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2222
TEL. NOS. (047) 252-4270 * 4214 * 4283 FAX NO. (047) 252-4251

2nd Bidding

SBMABAC-INV-008-05
Supply & Installation of
Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS)
Subic Bay Int'l. Airport SBFZ

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers / manufacturers / distributors / contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project : Supply and Installation of Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS)

Location : Bldg. 8050 (Radar Room), Subic Bay International Airport (SBIA), SBFZ:

Brief Description : The scope shall be the total replacement of defective Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) installed at Radar Room, Bldg. 8050, SBIA, SBFZ. The UPS capacity is 40 KVA and must be US or European made with 60 minutes (1 hour) back-up time at full load and shall consist of one (1) unit of UPS modules that is parallel redundant ready with a minimum of two (2) battery strings, and other features. It shall operate in conjunction with the existing building electrical system to provide power conditioning, back-up and distribution for critical loads.

Approved Budget Cost For the Contract : Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Pesos **(P2,500,000.00)**

Contract Duration : Forty-five days (45) days upon signing of Purchase Order/Contract including delivery and installation of UPS.

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last *five (5)* years with an amount of at least fifty percent (50%) of the proposed project for bidding, and have key personnel and equipment (owned, leased or under purchase) available for the prosecution of the project. The list of minimum equipment requirement is indicated in the Eligibility Forms. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary *"pass/fail"* criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	November 7, 8 and 9, 2005 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
2. Pre-Bid Conference	November 9, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)
3. Opening of Bids	November 23, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)

The venue for the above activities shall be at the Office of the Procurement and Property Management Department, Room 201, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of **Three Thousand Pesos (P3,000.00)** to the SBMA Cashier at Bldg. 229, Waterfront Rd. SBFZ.

The SBMA assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

Approved by:
(Sgd.) ATTY. JOCELYN G. ALVARADO
BAC Chairman

(PDI – October 29 & November 6, 2005)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PROCUREMENT SERVICE
Room 508, 5th Floor, Mabini Bldg., DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Telefax :636-6542
Website: http://www.deped.gov.ph
Trunk Line: 632-13-61 local 2094
Direct Line . 633-93-43

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The DepED-Bids and Awards Committee (DepED-BAC) invites eligible bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following services:

Package	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) per Package	Pre-Bid Conference	Bid Submission deadline/ Opening of Bids	Price of Bidding Documents (non-refundable)	End user
Package 1: Supply of Services for Comprehensive Maintenance and Support Services for IT Infrastructure of DepED Central Office	P5,400,000.00	Nov. 10, 2005 10:00 a.m Venue: Bulwagan Ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City	Nov. 23, 2005 10:00 a.m., Venue: Bulwagan Ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City	P3,000.00	TS
Package 2 Supply and Delivery of Full E1 Internet Access Service	P1,200,000.00				

Bids received that exceed the ABC per package shall be rejected.

The Bidding Documents shall be available at the BAC Secretariat, Procurement Service, Room 508, 5th Floor, Mabini Bldg., DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, starting **November 2, 2005** upon payment of the non-refundable fee indicated above.

Bidding shall be conducted in accordance with procedures under the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act. Information is also available at http://www.deped.gov.ph or www.procurementservice.org or call DepED-PS at Telephone No. 636-65-43 or Fax No. 636-65-42.

DepED-BAC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, or declare failure of bidding at any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected parties.

(Sgd.) ATTY. CAMILO MIGUEL M. MONTESA
Assistant Secretary and Chairperson, BAC

(PDI – Oct. 30 & Nov. 6, 2005)

Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Pananalapi
Kawanihan ng Rentas Internas
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR
Revenue Region No. 03
Tuguegarao City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Bureau of Internal Revenue through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the:

Name of Project SECURITY AND JANITORIAL SERVICES
Location BIR, Revenue Region No 03, Tuguegarao City
Approved Budget Security Services P 1,476,225 72
Janitorial Services: P 376,170.60
Contract Duration . January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006

All interested parties may get the bidding requirements/terms from Ms Cirila R Alegre, Head, BAC Secretariat, BIR Regional Office, ATI Bldg , Don Domingo, Tuguegarao City starting November 03, 2005 Submission of the sealed bids will be until November 24, 2005 at 8 30 am The opening and deliberation of the bids will be at 9 00 am on the same day and will be held at the BIR Regional Office A Pre-Bid conference will be conducted on November 10, 2005 at 9 00 a.m at the Conference Hall, BIR Regional Office.

The criteria to be used by the BIR are the following: a) eligibility check of prospective bidders; b) examination and evaluation of bids, and c) post qualification shall be on a non-discretionary "pass/fail" basis

The BIR-BAC assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bid The BIR also reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any of the required formality therein and accept the bids mostly advantageous to the government

For particulars, please inquire from the BAC Secretariat at telephone no. 844-3779/844-2883

APPROVED:

(Sgd) THELMA S. MILADAO
OIC-Asst. Regional Director

Certified Correct:
(Sgd) CIRILA R. ALEGRE
Head, BAC Secretariat

(PDI - Oct. 30 & Nov. 6, 2005)

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BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
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SBMABAC-INV-007-05
Expansion of Enterasys X-pedition 8600
MIS-Data Center, Bldg. 229, SBFZ

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers / manufacturers / distributors / contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project : Expansion of Enterasys X-pedition 8600

Location : MIS-Data Center, Bldg. 229, SBFZ

Brief Description : The scope shall be supply and installation of one (1) unit Gigabit Ethernet Module and one (1) unit Fast Ethernet Module to upgrade the existing equipment Enterasys X-pedition 8600.

Approved Budget Cost : One Million One Hundred Eighty Thousand and Eight Hundred Twelve Pesos **(P1,180,812.00)**

Contract Duration : Fifteen (15) days upon signing of Purchase Order/Contract including delivery and installation of the equipment.

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last ***three (3) years*** with an amount of at least fifty percent (50%) of the proposed project for bidding, and have key personnel and equipment (owned, leased or under purchase) available for the prosecution of the project. The list of minimum equipment requirement is indicated in the Eligibility Forms. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary *"pass/fail"* criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	November 7, 8 and 9, 2005 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
2. Pre-Bid Conference	November 9, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)
3. Submission/Opening of Bids	November 23, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)

The venue for the above activities shall be at the Office of the Procurement and Property Management Department, Room 201, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of **One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P1,500.00)** to the SBMA Cashier at Bldg. 229, Waterfront Rd. SBFZ.

The SBMA assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

Approved by:
(Sgd.) ATTY. JOCELYN G. ALVARADO
BAC Chairman

(PDI – October 29 & November 6, 2005)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PROCUREMENT SERVICE
Room 508, 5th Floor, Mabini Bldg., DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Telefax 636-65-42
Website http://www.deped.gov.ph
Trunk Line 632-13-61 local 2221/2007
Direct Line 633-93-47

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid
(RE-BID)

The DepED-Bids and Awards Committee (DepED-BAC) invites eligible bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid on the following item:

Package/Description	Approved Budget for the Contract	Date/Time		Price of Bidding Documents (non-refundable)	End-user
		Pre-bid Conference	Submission Deadline/ Opening of Bids		
Supply and Delivery of 23 sets of Computer Package consisting of Desktop Computer (Branded), Application Software, Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS), and Colored Printer per set.	Php 2,300,000.00	November 10, 2005 2:00 P.M. Bulwagan ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City	November 23, 2005 2:00 P.M. Bulwagan ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City	Php 1,000.00	Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP)

The Bidding Documents shall be available at the Procurement Service, BAC Secretariat, Room 508, 5th Flr., Mabini Bldg., DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, starting on November 3, 2005 upon payment of non-refundable fee indicated above.

The bidders shall submit their duly accomplished eligibility requirements, technical, and financial proposals in three separate sealed envelopes at the Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal I Bldg., DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City. Late bid shall be rejected.

Bidding shall be conducted in accordance with procedures under the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act. Information is also available at http://www.deped.gov.ph or www.procurementservice.org or call DepED-PS at Telephone No. 636-65-43 or Fax No. 636-65-42.

DepED-BAC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, or declare failure of bidding at any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected parties.

(Sgd.) Atty. MACUR MAROHOMBSAR
BAC Vice Chairman

(PDI - Oct. 30 & Nov. 6, 2005)

DUTY FREE

INVITATION FOR ACCREDITATION

DUTY FREE PHILIPPINES, a sector of the Philippine Tourism Authority is hereby inviting suppliers/service contractors interested to be accredited for future bidding requirements (through alternative method of procurement)

Office Supplies
Computer Supplies
Office Furniture
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Interior Decorations
Warehousing Requirements
Purified Water
Communication Equipment
Toiletries
Individually Packed Coffee, sugar and cream
Others

All interested suppliers/service contractors may secure accreditation documents for a non-refundable fee of **One Hundred Pesos (P 100.00)** from the Purchasing Department, Duty Free Philippines New Fiestamall, Columbia Complex, Ninoy Aquino Avenue, Parañaque City from November 07 – 11, 2005, (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Deadline for submission of duly accomplished accreditation documents shall be on or before 17 November 2005, (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.) All applicants shall be notified of the result of the application.

Duty Free Philippines reserves the right to reject any or all application or any part thereof, waive any defects contained therein and accept an offer most advantageous to the government, without thereby incurring liability to the applicant/s.

Parañaque City, this 25th day of October 2005.

Purchasing Department
Fax No. 879-3664
Tel. Nos. 879-3662, 879-3669 and 879-4271
bacsecretariat@dfp.com.ph

(Sgd.) MA. LOURDES D. VELARDE
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – Oct. 30 & Nov. 6, 2005)

PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN SA PAGKAIN
NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY

MATIMYAS BLDG., 101 E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE., QUEZON CITY
TEL. NO.: (632) 712-3341 TO 54 • FAX NO.: (632) 712-1110 • www.nfa.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
Provision of Frame Relay and Internet Services for Year 2006

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY*, through its *2006 Corporate Operating Budget* intends to apply the sum of *P2,564,000.00* being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract *for the provision of Frame Relay Service and Internet Service for Central Office covering the period January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006*, as follows:

Lot No.	Particulars	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)
1	Frame Relay Service for Year 2006	2,300,000.00
2	Internet Service for Year 2006	264,000.00
	TOTAL	2,564,000.00

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the *provision of Frame Relay Service and Internet Service for Central Office covering the period January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006*. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, Instruction to Bidders (ITB).

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY-BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT* and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by Interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of P5,000.00. The method of payment will be *CASH*. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* will hold a **Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on *November 21, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.*** at the *NFA Boardroom, 10th floor, Matimyas Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City.*

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered at the *NFA Boardroom, 10th floor, Matimyas Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City on December 9, 2005* from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Late Bids shall not be accepted. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in either of the following form and amount.

Form of Security	Required Amount in Percent of ABC
Cash, cashier's Check, Manager's Check, Bank draft or Irrevocable Letter of Credit	One percent (1%)
Bank Guarantee	One and a half percent (1.5%)
Surety Bond stamped "Callable on Demand" on the face of the Bond issued by GSIS	Two and a half percent (2.5%)
Any combination of the above	Proportionate to share

Bid opening shall be on *December 9, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.* at the *NFA Boardroom, 10th floor, Matimyas Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City.* Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Procuring Entity - *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY*
Contact Persons - *Jose D. Chua / Violeta S. Villarama*
Address - *101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City*
Telephone No. - *(632) 712-0454*
e-mail address - *vsvillarama@nfa.gov.ph*
Fax No. - *(632) 712-0454*
Website - *www.nfa.gov.ph*

(Sgd.) PEDRO S. HERNANDO, JR.
Deputy Administrator and BAC Chair
for Administration and General Support Services

(PDI – November 6 & 13, 2005)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PROCUREMENT SERVICE
Room 508, 5th Floor, Mabini Bldg., DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Telefax 636-65-42
Website http://www.deped.gov.ph
Trunk Line 632-13-61 local 2094
Direct Line 633-93-43

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The DepED-Bids and Awards Committee (DepED-BAC) invites eligible bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for printing, packaging, delivery, storing, and retrieval of NAT 2006 and Reading Test materials below:

Package	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) per Package	Pre-Bid Conference	Bid Submission deadline/ Opening of Bids	Price of Bidding Documents (non-refundable)	End user
Package 1: NAT Grade 6 & Yr. IV Printing of Test Booklets, Delivery of Test Booklets and Answer Sheets, and Retrieval of Test Booklets	P19,300,000.00	Nov. 11, 2005 10:00 a.m. Venue: Bulwagan Ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City	Nov. 24, 2005 10:00 a.m. Venue: Bulwagan Ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City	P4,000.00	NETRC
Package 2 NAT Years I and II: Printing of Test Booklets, Delivery of Test Booklets and Answer Sheets, and Retrieval of Test Booklets	P26,402,000.00				
Package 3 Reading Test in English and Filipino Grade 5. Printing of Test Booklets, Delivery of Test Booklets and Answer Sheets, and Retrieval of Test Booklets	P4,575,000.00				
Package 4 Printing of Non-Classified Materials for NAT Grade 6, Years I, II, and IV; and for Reading Test for Grades 3 and 5	P2,700,000.00				
Total	P52,977,000.00				

Bids received that exceed the ABC per package shall be rejected.

The Bidding Documents shall be available at the BAC Secretariat, Procurement Service, Room 508, 5th Floor, Mabini Bldg., DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, starting **November 3, 2005** upon payment of the non-refundable fee indicated above.

Bidding shall be conducted in accordance with procedures under the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act. Information is also available at http://www.deped.gov.ph or www.procurementservice.org or call DepED-PS at Telephone No. 636-65-43 or Fax No. 636-65-42.

DepED-BAC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, or declare failure of bidding at any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected parties.

(Sgd.) **CAMILO MIGUEL M. MONTESA**
Assistant Secretary and Chairperson, BAC

(PDI – Oct. 30 & Nov. 6, 2005)

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE
INVITATION TO BID

The Privatization and Management Office (PMO) is offering for sale, on "as-is, where-is" basis, the following PMO Service Vehicles:

VEHICLE DESCRIPTION	Price
1999 Mitsubishi Pajero – PLATE No. SFK 266 wagon, gray color, 6 cylinder diesel engine, automatic transmission, complete with spare tire and tools.	P 600,000
1995 Suzuki Vitara – PLATE No. SFD 908 white wagon, 4 cylinder gasoline engine, 4 speed manual transmission, complete with spare tire, tools and accessories.	P 190,000
1995 Nissan Vannette – PLATE No. SFD 788 red wide body, 4 cylinder gas engine, 5-speed manual, complete with spare tire, tools, and accessories.	P 130,000
1987 Nissan Sentra – PLATE No. SCH 990 blue 4 door sedan, 4 cylinder gas engine, 5-speed transmission, complete with spare tire, tools and accessories	P45,000

Bids will be received, opened and tabulated in the presence of the bidders on November 23, 2005 at 3:00 P.M. at the PMO Conference Room, 6th Floor, PMO Bldg., 104 Gamboa St. Legaspi Village, Makati City.

If the above bidding fails, PMO reserves the right to accept Proposals.

Sale documents consisting of the Asset Specific Bidding Rules (ASBR) and Asset Specific Bidding Form (ASBF) is now available upon registration of interest and payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Hundred Pesos (P200.00), for each vehicle.

For inquiries and details, please contact Ms. Hazel S. Mamuad at telephone numbers 818-8305 or 892-2145.

(PDI-November 4, 5 & 6, 2005)

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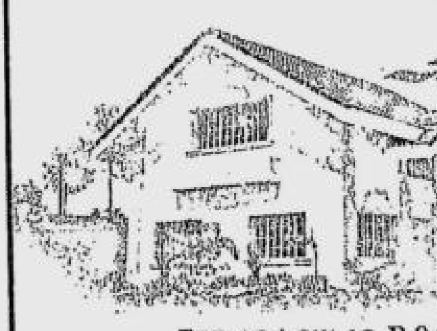

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(Sgd.) EDITA S. BUENO
Administrator

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

THE FOLLOWING ARE LISTS OF BOND FORMS AND POLICIES GIVEN TO **ACP INSURANCE AGENCY**. ANY ISSUANCE THEREOF WILL BE HELD NULL AND VOID AS THEY ARE NO LONGER CONNECTED WITH **PEOPLE'S GENERAL INSURANCE CORPORATION**.

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(PDI--Nov. 6, 2005)

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PCCI

Special General Meeting of Voting Members

-November 21, 2005;
2:00 P.M.
Sulo Hotel, Quezon City
Deadline for Submission of Proxies 5:00 P.M. November 15, 2005 at the PCCI Office

ADDENDUM TO AGENDA

RATIFICATION OF AMENDMENTS on the By-Laws

ALL REGULAR MEMBERS HAD BEEN PROPERLY NOTIFIED on the FORTHCOMING SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

PCCI

347TH & 348th PCCI ALL-BREEDS DOGSHOWS
Tiendesitas en Frontera-Verde
Cor. C-5 Ortigas
Pasig City
NOVEMBER 12 & 13
UNDER INT'L. JUDGES
MR. KIM CRYSELL (NZ)
MS. GEISLER LESH (AUST)

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late MANUEL A. YAP and LORETA V. YAP has been extrajudicially settled among their heirs before Notary Public HILARIO T. OMADTO, JR. as per Doc#24 Page#6 Book#IIA Series of 2005. (PDI-Oct. 23, 30 & Nov. 6, 2005)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late MARIANO CHENG KING has been extrajudicially settled by his legal heirs under Doc No. 66; Page No. 15; Book No. XV; Series of 2005 of Notary Public atty Aguedo L. Gepte III of City of Manila (PDI-Oct 23, 30 & Nov 6, 2005)

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A NEW BUSINESS IDEA FROM SINGAPORE Helping Filipinos Wordwide Jamie 09178045234 Cells 09177963241 / 8210254

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Be **FOREWARNED** that ***MARITESS A. UMBAO*** is no longer connected with **Phil-Amer Immigration Services, Inc.**, operating under the trade name and style **Canadian Immigration Consultancy** (CIC) effective **August 2005.**

A criminal complaint for Estafa is now filed against Umbao.

Consequently, all actions, transactions and/or documentations of **Umbao** shall be considered unauthorized and without force and effect and shall not be honored by the Company.

(PDI--Nov. 6, 2005)

CIC Management

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DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines will receive sealed bids on November 17, 2005, 2:00 p.m., 12th Floor, Suite 4, of the DBP Head Office, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City for the following properties on CASH BASIS:

CODE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM SELLING PRICE
REAL ESTATE METRO MANILA			
AMD-ML-153	Sitio Pasong Balite, Bo. Pamplona,	236 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-75802) Las Pinas City	P 409,800.00
AMD-ML-154	Anonas St. Sta. Mesa Manila	300.2 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-245737)	P 2,521,700.00
AMD-ML-155	Andora St., cor Jackson St. Vista Verde Subd. Bo. Llano, Caloocan City	276 m^2 residential lot (TCT No C- 348039)	P 530,500.00
AMD-ML-156	Andora St., cor Jackson St. Vista Verde	190 m^2 residential lot (TCT No C- 348031) Subd. Bo. Llano, Caloocan City	P 341,800.00
AMD-ML-157	Andora St., cor Jackson St. Vista Verde Subd. Bo. Llano, Caloocan City	190 m^2 residential lot (TCT No C- 348033)	P 341,800.00
AMD-PI-158	Suter St., Sta. Ana, Mla	124 m^2 residential lot (TCT No. T-240282)	P 520,800.00
COT-2	Pajo St., Quirino District	198.40 m^2 residential lot (TCT NO. N-278855) w/ bldg & imp.	P 3,077,800.00
CRA-13a	Don Pedro Reyes St., Victoria Homes, Bo. Tunasan, Muntinlupa City	525 m^2 residential/industrial lot (TCT No. 3273)	P 1,365,000.00
CRA-13b	Don Pedro Reyes St., Victoria Homes, Bo. Tunasan, Muntinlupa City	525 m^2 residential/industrial lot (TCT No. 3271)	P 1,365,000.00
CWB-6a	Tugatog St., (696 C. Molina St.), Veinte Reales, Valenzuela City	1,000 m^2 residential/industrial lot (TCT No. V-57731) w/ bldgs & imp.	P 3,341,100.00
CWB-6b	Tugatog St., (C. Molina St.), Veinte Reales, Valenzuela City	375 m^2 residential/industrial lot (TCT No. V-57732) w/ bldg & imp.	P 1,395,400.00
AMD-MC-159	Alpine Street, Marville Subd., Parañaque City	307.35 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 161167) w/ bldg & imp.	P 2,945,200.00
AMD-JA-160	Gov. A. Santos Street, B.F Homes, Parañaque City	354 m^2 residental lot (TCT No 60797) w/ bldg & imp.	P 2,669,000.00
AMD-MC-161	Evangelista Street, Project 4, Quezon City.	304.4 m^2 residential lot (TCT Nos N- 266684) w/ apartment bldg.	P 2,663,600.00
BATAAN	Sta. Monica Homes, Sitio Wiswis, Camaya, Mariveles	Residential lots w/ bldg. & imp.	
AMD-ED-162	Lot 4 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229502)	95,100.00
AMD-ED-163	Lot 7 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229501)	129,300.00
AMD-ED-164	Lot 8 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229500)	123,000.00
AMD-ED-165	Lot 6 Blk. 8	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229499)	95,100.00
AMD-ED-166	Lot 22 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229498)	89,100.00
AMD-ED-167	Lot 15 Blk. 32	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229495)	145,000.00
AMD-ED-168	Lot 18 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229497)	146,100.00
AMD-ED-169	Lot 7 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229491)	120,000.00
AMD-ED-170	Lot 49 Blk. 8	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229493)	95,100.00
AMD-ED-171	Lot 45 Blk. 8	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229490)	162,800.00
AMD-ED-172	Lot 11 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229486)	126,000.00
AMD-ED-173	Lot 5 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229484)	121,000.00
AMD-ED-174	Lot 3 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229485)	116,300.00
AMD-ED-175	Lot 10 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229494)	129,300.00
AMD-ED-176	Lot 10 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229482)	116,300.00
AMD-ED-177	Lot 6 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229483)	133,000.00
AMD-ED-178	Lot 15 Blk. 20	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 229481)	210,000.00
AMD-ED-179	Lot 12 Blk. 9	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229472)	130,400.00
AMD-ED-180	Lot 8 Blk. 8	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229472)	123,000.00
AMD-ED-181	Lot 14 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229492)	127,800.00
AMD-ED-182	Lot 27 Blk. 20	50 m^2 (TCT No T- 229492)	122,500.00
AMD-ED-183	Lots 7&10 Blk. 32	100 m^2 (TCT Nos. T- 229503 & T-229504)	228,600.00
AMD-ED-184	Lots 25&28 Blk. 20	100 m^2 (TCT Nos. T- 229478 & T-229479)	197,000.00
AMD-ED-185	Lots 35, 38&39 Blk. 20		
BATANGAS			
AMD-JA-186	D. Silang Street, Batangas City	159 m^2. commercial lot (TCT No. T-53085)	P 2,226,000.00
AMD-ML-187	Lot 11, Blk 3,Transville Homes Subd, Banay-Banay Lipa City	80 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T- 141654) w/ bldg.	P 232,100.00
AMD-ED-188	Bgy Alangilan, Batangas City	18,139 m^2 Ind'l lot (TCT No-53085) w/ bldgs & imp.	P 27,692,900.00
AMD-PY-189	Brgy.Sta. Rita, Batangas City	590 m^2 two adjoining comm'l lot (TCT No T- 43159 & T-43160)	P 1,542,000.00
AMD-MC-190	Bo. Bawi, Padre Garcia	4.545 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-127899) w/ bldg.	P 1,200,000.00
AMD-ML-191	Tiambo,Taysan	44,.560 m^2 untitled Agri- land (ARP No. 20-00743) 21,445 m^2 untitled Agri -land (ARP No. 20-00742) 21,662 m^2 untitled Agri -land (ARP No. 20-00741)	P 3,069,000.00
BULACAN			
AMD-PI-192	Lot 18 Blk. 1, Grotto Ville Homes, Gaya-Gaya, San Jose Del Monte	43 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 418450) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 119,000.00
AMD-CP-193	Brgy Santol, Balagtas	31,400 m^2 parcel of lot (TCT Nos T-421182 (M)), and T-421183 (M) with bldg. & imp.	P 10,554,100.00
AMD-PI-194	Citiland Bulacan Heights, Green Breeze 1 Bo. Pulong Buhangin, Sta. Maria	200 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-295185)	P 144,000.00
AMD-CP-195	Kansas St. Ciudad Grande, North Subd., Phase II Bos. Banga and Lawa, Meycauayan	120 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-357146)	P 187,200.00
AMD-ML-196	Camias St., Mazano Subd., Brgy Ibayo, Marilao	294 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-357146)	P 846,800.00
AMD-PI-197	Pungo, Calumpit	6,913 m^2 agricultrual lot (TCT No T-155594)	P 3,318,300.00
AMD-PI-198	Kaybitin Ext. Road, Brgy San Gabriel, Sta. Maria	373 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-385268) w/ 2 bldgs.	P 249,300.00
CWB-4	Bo. Palimbang, Calumpit	690 m^2 residental lot (TCT No. T-162779) w/ bldg & imp.	P 1,731,300.00
CWB-14	NIA Road located at B. San Jose Bintog II, Plaridel	4,503 m^2 agro-residential lot (TCT No. T-191902 (M)) w/ unfinished bldg.	P 3,990,500.00
CWB-13	Tigbe, Norzagaray	1,028 m^2 agro-ind'l lot (TCT No. T-401414 (M)) w/ bldgs. & imp.	P 1,830,700.00
CABANATUAN	Vista Amor Subd, Bangad	Residential lot with bldg. & imp	
AMD-PY-199	Lot 45 Blk 2	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 116963)	P 282,600.00
AMD-PY-200	Lot 7 Blk 2	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 116982)	P 333,800.00
AMD-PY-201	Lot 16 Blk 1	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 116960)	P 297,100.00
AMD-PY-202	Lot 21 Blk 2	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 114462)	P 257,600.00
AMD-PY-203	Lot 19 Blk 2	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 118074)	P 273,200.00
AMD-PY-204	Lot 27 Blk 2	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 118071)	P 297,100.00
AMD-PY-205	Lot 15 Blk 1	100 m^2 (TCT No T- 118073)	P 292,900.00
CAVITE			
AMD-DE-206	Lot 5 Blk 9, Satellite Homes III, Brgy San Jose, Dasmariñas	55 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 1089138) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 197,000.00
	Acacia Homes, Bangkal, Dasmariñas	Residential lot w/ bldg. & imp.	
AMD-DE-207	Lot 6 Blk 12	50 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 1063276)	P 123,300.00
AMD-DE-208	Lot 6 Blk 2	80 m^2 (TCT No T- 1063277) with Bldg.	P 165,600.00
	Philhomes Ville I, Bgy Toclong, Kawit	Residential lot w/ bldg & imp	
AMD-MC-209	Lot 43 Blk 11	32 m^2 (TCT No T- 1088686)	P 134,400.00
AMD-MR-210	Lot 20 Blk 11	32 m^2 (TCT No T-1101809)	P 310,400.00
AMD-ML-211	Tradition Homes, Luciano, Trece Martirez City	75 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 68320) w/ Duplex Bldg.	P 200,500.00
AMD-PI-212	Bo. Sinaliw, Alfonso	768 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-369067) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 196,200.00
AMD-DE-213	Bo. Iruhin, Tagaytay City	1,500 m^2 residental lot (TCT No 36905)	P 2,719,500.00
AMD-MC-214	Cherry St., Greenfield Subd., Bo Silangan, Rosario, Cavite	216 m^2 (TCT No. T-899528)	P 388,800.00
AMD-MC-215	Cherry St., Greenfield Subd., Bo Silangan, Rosario, Cavite	216 m^2 (TCT No. T-896707)	P 388,800.00
AMD-MR-216	Lot 3 Blk. 17, Regal Homes, Alapan I, Imus	40 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T-882848) with bldg. & imp.	P 154,000.00
COTABATO			
AMD-JA-217	Poblacion, M'lang, Cotabato	901 m^2 comm'l/ residental lot (TCT No . T-105909) with Bldg & Facilities, and Caltex Office Station	P 1,742,200.00
CAMARINES SUR			
AMD-CP-218	San Francisco, Iriga City	5,154 m^2 adjoining lot (TCT Nos T 2004, 2005 & 2006) with 3-storey comm'l. bldgs. & imp., equipt. & furniture	P 37,975,700.00
AMD-CP-219	San Juan III Iriga City	7,736 m^2 residental lot (TCT No 2003)	P 3,417,800.00
DIGOS			
AMD-JA-220	Purok I, Padillo Compound, Rizal Ave. Interior, Poblacion, Digos City.	1,122 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-53895) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 1,056,100.00
DAVAO			
AMD-ED-221	Tacunan Road, Catalunan Grande, Davao City	2,235 m^2 continuos (3) residental lot (TCT Nos T- 369591,T-369590,& T-369589) with Bldg.& Imp, Equipt & Facilities	P 3,601,800.00
AMD-ML-222	Miraflores Subd., Tagum City	595 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-193659) w/Bldg & Facilities	P 635,000.00
AMD-JA-223	Bgy. Babac, Malalag, Davao del Sur	68,816 m^2 Agro-Ind'l lot (TCT No. T-52066) with bldg & imp.	P 11,970,000.00
ILIGAN			
AMD-MC-224	Mahayhay, Iligan City	1,612 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-57,198) w/ bldg.	P 1,897,500.00
KIDAPAWAN			
AMD-JA-225	Sudapin, Kidapawan City	500 m^2 residental lot (TCT No . T-105911) with bldg.	P 1,248,400.00
AMD-JA-226	Gayola, Kidapawan City	164,586 m^2 adjoining Agri lot (TCT Nos T-105910)	P 703,500.00
LAGUNA			
AMD-MR-227	Lot 2 Blk. 15, St. Joseph 4, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao	80 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T- 616397) with Bldg	P 250,600.00
	St. Joseph Village 5, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao	Residential lot w/ bldg. & imp.	
AMD-DE-228	Lot 11 Blk. 1	52 m^2 (TCT No T- 545608)	P 45,300.00
AMD-DE-229	Lot 9 Blk. 3	40 m^2 (TCT No T- 584430)	P 131,800.00
AMD-DE-230	Lot 8 Blk. 11	46 m^2 (TCT No T- 605767)	P 144,200.00
	St. Joseph Village 6, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao	Residential lot w/ bldg. & imp.	
AMD-DE-231	Lot 12 Blk. 8	40 m^2 (TCT No T- 584429)	P 137,100.00
AMD-DE-232	Lot 9 Blk. 14	40 m^2 (TCT No T- 584431)	P 137,100.00
AMD-PI-233	Lot 3 Blk. 11	40 m^2 (TCT No T- 605765)	P 131,400.00
AMD-ML-234	Lot 11, Blk 11,St. Joseph Village, Phase 6, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao, Laguna	40 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 584456) with bldg.	P 140,000.00
AMD-DE-235	Lot 44, Blk 1,St. Joseph Village, Phase 6, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao, Laguna	47 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 562041) with bldg.	P 152,600.00
AMD-DE-236	Lot 16, Blk 8,St. Agnes St.,St. Joseph Village ,Phase 1, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao, Laguna	40 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 599208) with bldg.	P 131,900.00
AMD-PI-237	Lot 10, Blk 8,St. Agnes St ,St. Joseph Village, Phase 1, Brgy. Butong, Cabuyao, Laguna	40 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 605766) with bldg.	P 148,500.00
AMD-DE-238	Lot 23 Blk 2, San Pablo St., San Carlos Village, Brgy Banay-Banay, Cabuyao	66 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 536564) with bldg.	P 217,900.00
AMD-ML-239	Lot 20, Blk. 5, Conpil Village IV, San Vicente, San Pedro	79 m^2 residential lot (TCT No T- 536560) with bldg.	P 253,200.00
NUEVA ECIJA			
AMD-CP-240	Brgy. Cadaclan, Pantabangan	171,126 m^2 agro-residential lot (TCT No. T-58931)	P 1,092,900.00
ORIENTAL MINDORO			
AMD-ED-241	Sto. Niño, Puerto Galera, Oriental, Mindoro	9,583 m^2 Agro- residental lot (TCT No 122704 & 122705)	P 5,355,000.00
PAMPANGA			
AMD-ML-242	Don Bonifacio Subd., Balibago, Angeles City	356 m^2 residential lot (TCT No 114589).	P 98,800.00
	Dolores Heights, Dolores, San Fernando	Residential lots:	
AMD-ML-243	Lot 8 Blk. 2	216 m^2 (TCT No 481051-R)	P 466,600.00
AMD-ML-244	Lot 9 Blk. 2	216 m^2 (TCT No 481052-R)	P 466,600.00
AMD-ML-245	Lot 10 Blk. 2	216 m^2 (TCT No 481053-R)	P 466,600.00
AMD-ML-246	Lot 11 Blk. 2	216 m^2 (TCT No 481054-R)	P 466,600.00
AMD-ML-247	Lot 12 Blk. 2	402 m^2 (TCT No 481055-R)	P 868,400.00
QUEZON			
AMD-JA-248	Brgy. Poblacion, Real	400 m^2 commercial lot (TCT No. T-25948) w/ bldg & imp.	P 1,756,200.00
AMD-ML-249	Bo. Cabuguang, Tagkawayan	203,068 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-367909)	P 2,761,800.00
AMD-ML-250	Bo. Cabuguang, Tagkawayan	205,758 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T-367910)	P 2,469,200.00
AMD-ML-251	Bo. Sampaloc, Sariaya	10,000 m^2 agricultural lot (TCT No T-367896)	P 660,000.00
RIZAL			
AMD-DE-252	C. Lewis Ext, Bgy San Luis, Antipolo City	1,377 m^2 Ind'l- residental lot (TCT No R-14327) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 6,446,400.00
AMD-CP-253	Pililla	26,720 m^2 residental lot (TCT No M- 100249 & M-100250 m^2)	P 2,227,100.00
AMD-MC-254	Bagumbayan, Teresa	3,747 m^2 agro- residental lot (TCT No . T-96063) w/ bldg. & imp.	P 1,263,100.00
ZAMBOANGA			
AMD-MC-255	Lot 26, Blk 14, Country Homes Pase 3, Ayala, Zamboanga City	3,747 162 m^2 residental lot (TCT No T- 153.721) with Bldg.	P 221,800.00
CHATTELS			
AMD-JA-256	Bgy Babac, Malalag, Davao Del Sur	Coco-oil Mill Plant w/ 1 lot of piping facilities & Lab Equipt.	P 17,148,400.00
AMD-ED-257	Trigen Ice Plant, Numancia, Aklan	1 Unit Diamond Wiresaw Cutter, MABINI Model MAR-FIL w/ 1 unit Wiresaw Automatic Splicing Machine	P 83,000.00
AMD-ED-258	Trigen Ice Plant, Numancia, Aklan	1 Unit "Airman" Air Compressor, Model-C240	P 18,500.00
AMD-ED-259	Trigen Ice Plant, Numancia, Aklan	1 Unit Trailer mounted Generating Set; 30 KVA	P 13,000.00

BIDDERS ARE REMINDED:

1. To inspect the properties to determine their actual condition before the bidding;
2. To submit in DBP's official bid form available at the AMD-Acquired Assets, 2nd Floor, DBP Head Office during office hours; and
3. To be on time. No bids will be accepted once unsealing of the bids commences. The sale shall be subject to other terms and conditions which may be imposed by the Bank.

DBP RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN, OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. THE DECISION OF THE BANK IS FINAL AND BINDING.

For inquiries, please call telephone numbers 892-1566/893-7172 or 818-9511 local 2218/2252 for Code starting with AM and (064) 421-2387 for COT and 920-4905 or 818-9511 loc. 1411 for CWM/CRA.

ASSET MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

(PDI – November 5 & 6, 2005)

THE
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FORT BONIFACIO
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OBITUARIES

RATE
P245 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)
DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

ROMEO H. GUSTILO, M.D.

Physician, Neurosurgeon, Teacher, Mentor,
Husband, Father, Grandfather, Friend

30 November 1915 – 04 November 2005

Peacefully joined his beloved wife, **Nena Lizares Gustilo** (+) in the home of our Lord.

We, his loving children, **Marielou**, **Marivic** & **Bob**, **Dido**, **Maricar** & **Butch**, **Mariles**, **Jimmy**; grandchildren **Tedi**, **Miki**, **Timi** and **Amanda** request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Capilla de San Francisco, Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati City

Funeral Mass will be held on Wednesday, 09 November 2005 at 9:00 am in the main church.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

ORLANDO DOROMAL PLAGATA

(Businessman and Football Coach)
of Jaro, Iloilo City & Pasay City
who joined his Maker on October 23, 2005

wish to convey our heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to all of you, our relatives and friends, who spent precious time with us, sent flowers, Mass cards, gave donations, or in some other ways expressed your love, concern and support in celebrating Lando's coming home to his Creator.

We will always cherish them in our hearts and mind.

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the Faith."
(2 Timothy 4)

COL. RUPERTO NUÑEZ MOLATO SR.
GSC (RET.)

PMA CLASS 1942
of Mogpog, Marinduque

Peacefully joined his Creator on November 4, 2005 at the age of 89.

His loving wife **Marina**, children **Ruperto Jr.**, **Carmencita**, **Marina**, **Angelo**, **Nelia**, and **Teodoro**, daughters and sons-in-law **Lorna**, **Moises**, **Ken**, **Marie Lyn**, **Rudi**, grandchildren, nephews, nieces, relatives, and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Sanctuario de San Jose, Greenhills East, Mandaluyong City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, November 9, 2005, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque.

2nd Lt. WILSON LLAMAS ESTRADA (Ret.)

died October 28, 2005

Place	:	St. Rita de Cascia, Parish Church, Baclaran
Date of Interment	:	November 8, 2005, 10AM
Place of Interment	:	Libingan ng mga Bayani
Sister	:	**Tonie & Rosendo Andrada**
Children	:	**Victor & Bing Estrada** **Wilson & Nina Estrada**
Grandchildren	:	**Leovon, Erica, Angelica, Manuel Carlos, Fides, Dominique Anne, Juan Alvaro & Maria Esperanza**

In Loving Memory on the
First Death Anniversary
of

NORMA F. BATERINA REYES

(d. November 6, 2004)

Masses will be offered today, November 6, 2005, at

Sto. Domingo Parish Church,
Sto. Domingo,
Ilocos Sur..............................8:30 AM

Sacred Heart Parish Church,
Scout Ybardolaza St.
Kamuning, Q. C.........................10:30 AM

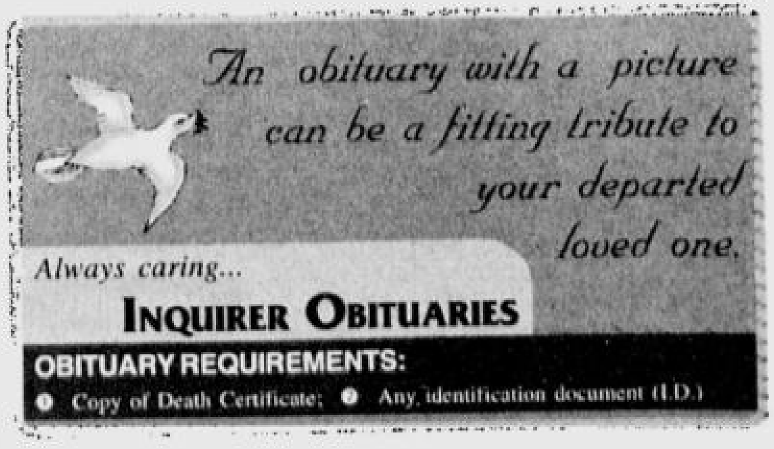
"I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."
John 14:6

DEATH NOTICE

Remedios Quinto Buñag

peacefully joined her Creator on Nov. 3 at the age of 82.
Cremation and interment will be on Nov. 7 after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at Loyola Guadalupe.

we design obit for free



An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.
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OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate; ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

OBITUARIES

In Loving Remembrance on the
4th Death Anniversary
of

Capt. Jose E. Diaz (PN)

September 28, 1920 – November 6, 2001

Quietly remembered everyday.
Still loved, still missed in everyway.
--- Letty, Family and Friends

Special Masses will be held in
Las Piñas and Canada.

REMEDIOS QUINTO BUÑAG

of Tuguegarao City, Cagayan
and Quezon City

Passed away in the grace of our Lord on November 3, 2005 at the age of 82.

Her bereaved husband **MELANIO**; children **CHOLO, BUBUT, DONDI, ERIC** and **MARIVI**; sons and daughters-in-law **ALMA LUGUE, PENG HILARIO III, NIKITA PIDOR, EDEN PAJARILLO** and **HENRY TAN**; grandchildren, great grandchildren, nephews and nieces and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City.

Cremation will be on November 7, 2005 after the 10:30 a.m. Mass at the Loyola Memorial Chapels.

Our Beloved Nanay

MAGDALENA LURES DY

was called home to the Lord on Friday, 4th of November 2005 at the age of 86.

Her loving children: **Ofelia & Bobby, Olivia & Marcial, Nelson & Aida†, Sonia, Herman† & Felisa, Elsa & Steve, Henry, Winnie & Otoy, Jane & Cesar, Norman†, Jay & William, Wilson & Aileen,** grandchildren & great grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Mt. Carmel Church, Broadway, New Manila, Quezon City.

Interment will be announced at a later date.

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"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

CLASSIFIEDS

Godiva pre-holiday promo for Diamond Peel and IPL

FACE THE UPCOMING Christmas season with a younger, smoother skin as Godiva's exclusive Club G presents its pre-holiday promo on its Diamond Peel and permanent hair removal services.

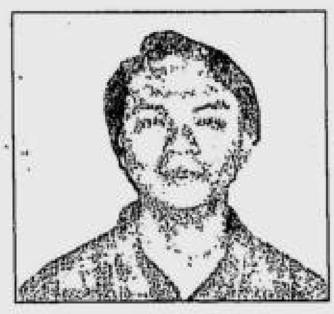
Starting Nov. 2 to 16, joining Club G becomes even more irresistible with new incredible prices for Skin Station Services and zero interest financing offer. Club G applicants can avail of any combination of Diamond Peel and/or IPL for permanent hair removal, acne clearance, and/or sunspot photorejuvenation, all at drop-down prices, depending on their membership level. Platinum applicantas can enjoy the Diamond Peel for P550/session or upper lip hair removal at P720/session. Club G membership starts at P5,000 for silver, P10,000 for gold and P20,000 for platinum.

Current clubmembers also have the option to buy additional Diamond Peel and/or IPL treatments at their membership level discounted rates.

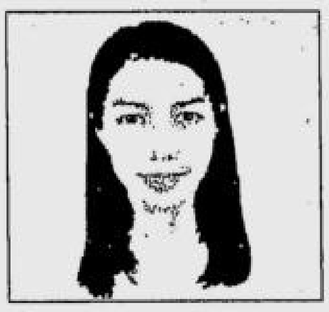
And for Banco de Oro and Equitable cardholders, they can now avail of installment financing at zero interest for 3 months with just a minimum purchase of P3,000.

So enjoy all the beauty benefits from the expert in skincare - sign up now for a Club G membership at your nearest Godiva Skin Station! Call 751-6140 (Makati Bel-Air) or 939-1105 (SM Fairview) and make your appointment today.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



REY ANTONIO C. AVELLANO
326 Lorenso St., Poblacion, Tiwi Albay



Ms. AIDA DIVIÑA C. DY
Payaban, Malinao Albay

That **REY ANTONIO C. AVELLANO** and **AIDA DIVIÑA C. DY** whose pictures appear above are **NO LONGER CONNECTED WITH COMGLASCO AG CORP. effective 19 July 2005,**any transaction or representation entered into by these persons for and on behalf of the company shall not be honored. **CRIMINAL CASES** have already been filed against them pending before Office of the City Prosecutor, Legaspi City with I.S. # 05-0462.

(PDI--Nov. 6, 2005)

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MANILA BOARD OF REALTORS®
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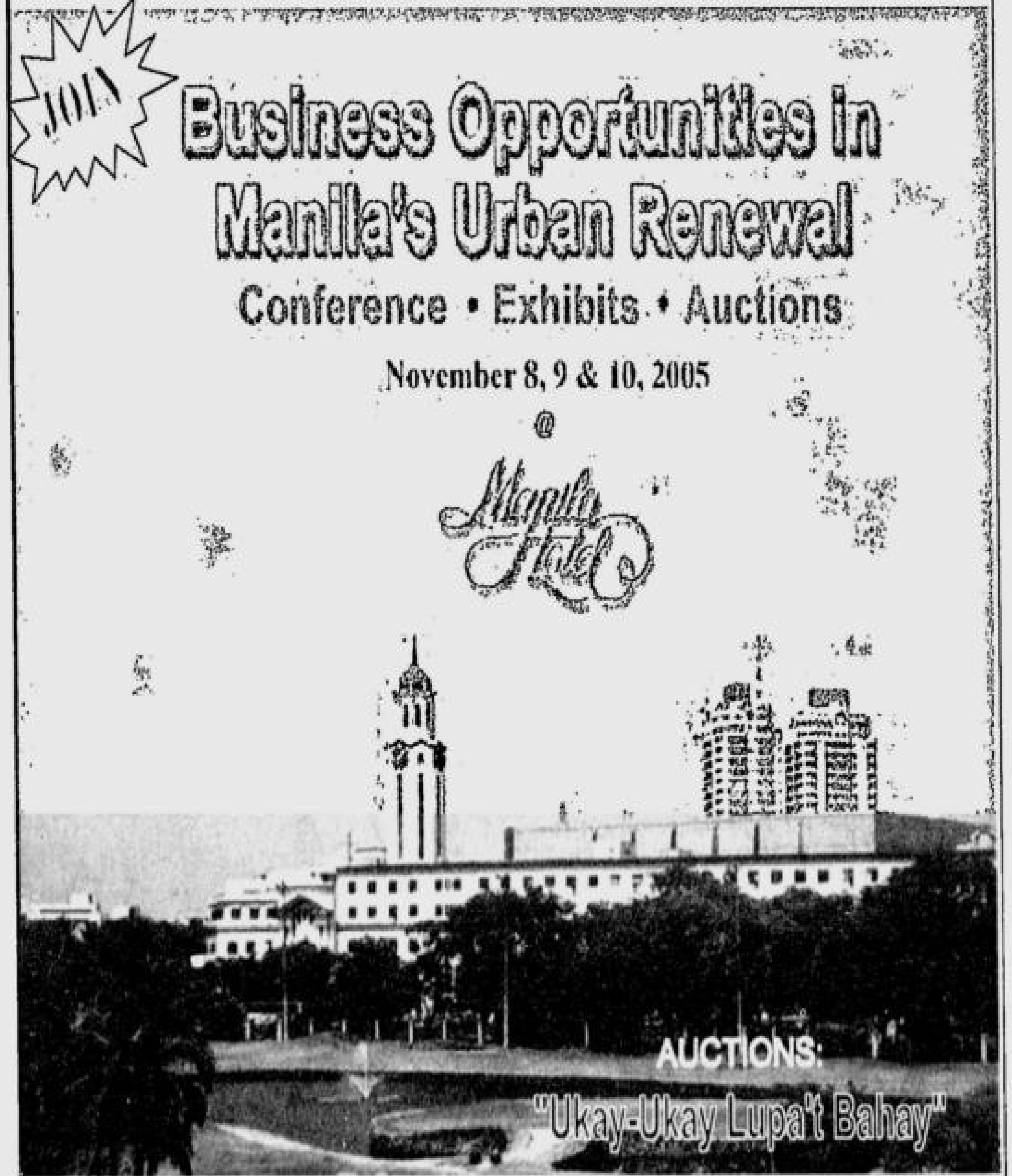

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Republic of the Philippines
National Economic and Development Authority
Caraga Regional Office
Nimfa Tiu Bldg., J. Rosales Ave., Butuan City
Telefax No. (085) 342-5613, (085) 341-7685
Email add: cfsp_neda@caraga.bayandsl.ph

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

Contract No. FLGC-05-001

Name of Contract	:	Construction of Farm Level Grains Center (FLGC)
Location	:	Bunawan Brook, Bunawan, Agusan del Sur
Brief Description	:	A Grains Center compromising of Warehouse, Husk Tank, Solar Dryer and Perimeter Fence
Approved Budget For the Contract (ABC)	:	Five Million Eight Hundred Three Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Eight Pesos and 06/100 (Php 5,803,688.06)
Contract Duration	:	One Hundred Forty-Nine (149) Days

The National Economic and Development Authority, Caraga Regional Office (NEDA Caraga), through a Grant per Memorandum of Agreement with Agencia Española de Cooperacion International (AECI) for the implementation of the Caraga Food Sufficiency Project, Phase II, intends to apply the above specified amount being the Approved Budget for the Contract.

NEDA Caraga now calls for the submission of Letters of Intent (LOIs) from potential bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the construction of the Bunawan FLGC.

Bidders should possess a valid Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) license applicable to the above type and cost of the contract, have completed a similar contract with the value of at least fifty percent (50%) of the ABC, and meet the other minimum eligibility requirements stated in the Eligibility Document.

Applicants must submit their LOIs on or before 12:00 noon of November 21, 2005 at NEDA Caraga Regional Office and secure the Eligibility Documents there from upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Three Hundred Pesos (Php 300.00). Applicants shall submit their accomplished Eligibility Documents to the BAC Secretariat at the NEDA Caraga Regional Office on or before 10:00 AM of November 23, 2005, where opening of Eligibility Documents will follow on the same day at 2:00 PM Applications for eligibility will be evaluated on a "pass/fail" basis.

NEDA Caraga will notify applicants on the result of evaluation of the Eligibility Documents on November 24, 2005 and issue Bid Documents to eligible bidders on the same date.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as prescribed in the Implementing Rules and Regulations, Part A (IRR-A), of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted, unless otherwise stated, to organizations with at least seventy-five percent (75%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.

Only those bidders passing the eligibility check will be entitled to purchase the Bidding Documents.

A complete set of Bid Documents may be purchased by eligible bidders at a nonrefundable fee of Three Thousand Two Hundred Pesos (PhP 3,200.00) upon the presentation of the Notice of Eligibility to the BAC Secretariat. The Bidding Documents shall be purchased personally by the duly authorized representative of the bidders not later than 12:00 noon of December 13, 2005.

NEDA Caraga will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all eligible bidders at 9:00 AM of November 28, 2005 at NEDA Caraga Regional Office.

Bidders must submit their bids to NEDA Caraga on or before 12:00 noon of December 13, 2005. Each bid must be accompanied by a bid security in the form of a Bank Guarantee and in the amount of Eighty-Seven Thousand Fifty-Five Pesos and 32/100 (Php 87,055.32) or equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. Late bids shall not be accepted. Bid opening shall be on December 13, 2005 3:00 PM at NEDA Caraga Regional Office. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend the bid opening. Only bids from eligible bidders will be opened. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening. A contract will be awarded only to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder determined as such during post-qualification.

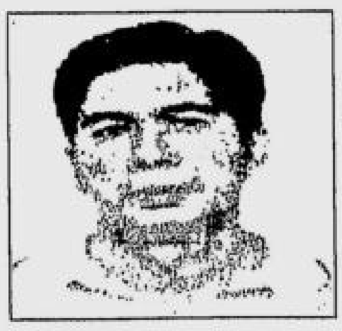
Completion of the Works is required by the end of One Hundred Forty-Nine (149) Calendar Days.

NEDA Caraga reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

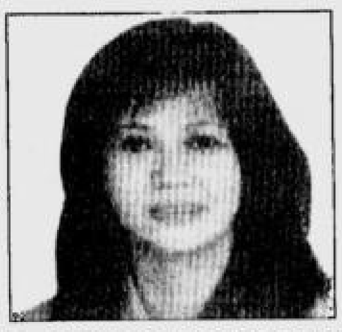
(Sgd.) JOHNNY T. LIM
BAC Chairperson

(PDI--Nov. 6 & 13, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



ELMER P. NERI
34 Nickel St., Filinvest II, Batasan Hills, Q.C.



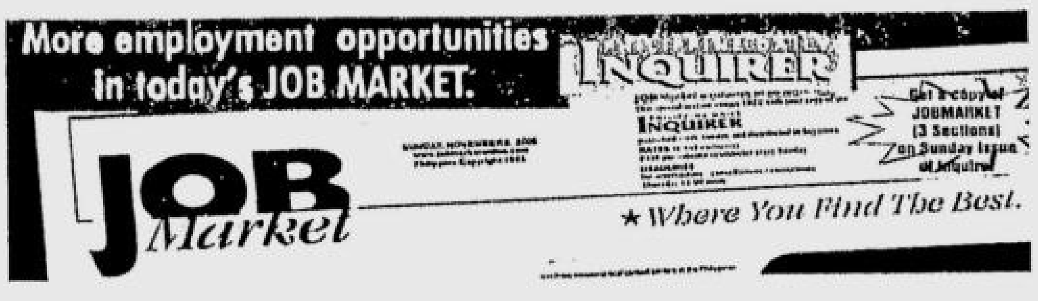
MA. LUISA S. APODERADO
10 Vanguard St., Moonwalk, Las Piñas

This is to inform the public of the outstanding warrants of arrest issued against **ELMER P. NERI** and **MA. LUISA S. APODERADO** whose pictures appear above, under the following cases:

1. Crim. Case 05-1236 (Makati RTC Br.139)
2. Crim. Case 05-1237 (Makati RTC Br.139)
3. Crim. Case 05-1593 (Makati RTC Br. 134)
4. Crim. Case 05-1836 (Makati RTC Br. 134)

If you have any information on their whereabouts leading to their arrest, please call Tel no. 812-8242 or Mobile no. 0917-8730522 and 0917-8868160.

(PDI--Nov. 6, 2005)



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Pickled goods bring fresh hope to sleeping town

CALACA, BATANGAS—THIS TOWN IS WAKING up to an appetizing new economic potential. What used to be the appetizer on every breakfast, lunch and dinner table in this town is now the future income earner of every *achara* (pickle) maker and could possibly change the way people view Calaca.

"In the past, when people from Manila asked us where Calaca, Batangas was, we only had two descriptions. First, it's the town between Balayan and Lemery, and second, it's where you will find the Napocor's coal-fired power plant," Manuel Ona said, "But now we want the people to know that Calaca is the home of the best achara in the country."

Manuel is the brother of Calaca Mayor Nas Ona and sits as one of the officers of the first Calacachara Festival committee.

He said the celebration last Oct. 20-22 was just the start of the move to boost the town's economic potential as the Achara Capital of the Philippines.

"Our achara makers have already organized and the local government has already extended assistance in the packaging of the product," Manuel said, "Our plan is to make our achara go places, and be proud that it came from Calaca. This will help the achara makers earn more, and boost the production of the product."

Be it pickled papaya, *ampalaya*, *labong* (bamboo shoots), *ubod* (coconut core) and

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2 months	3.1250%	3.2500%	3.3750%	3.4375%
3 months	3.2500%	3.3750%	3.4375%	3.5000%
6 months	3.3750%	3.4375%	3.5000%	3.6250%
12 months	3.4375%	3.5000%	3.6250%	3.7500%

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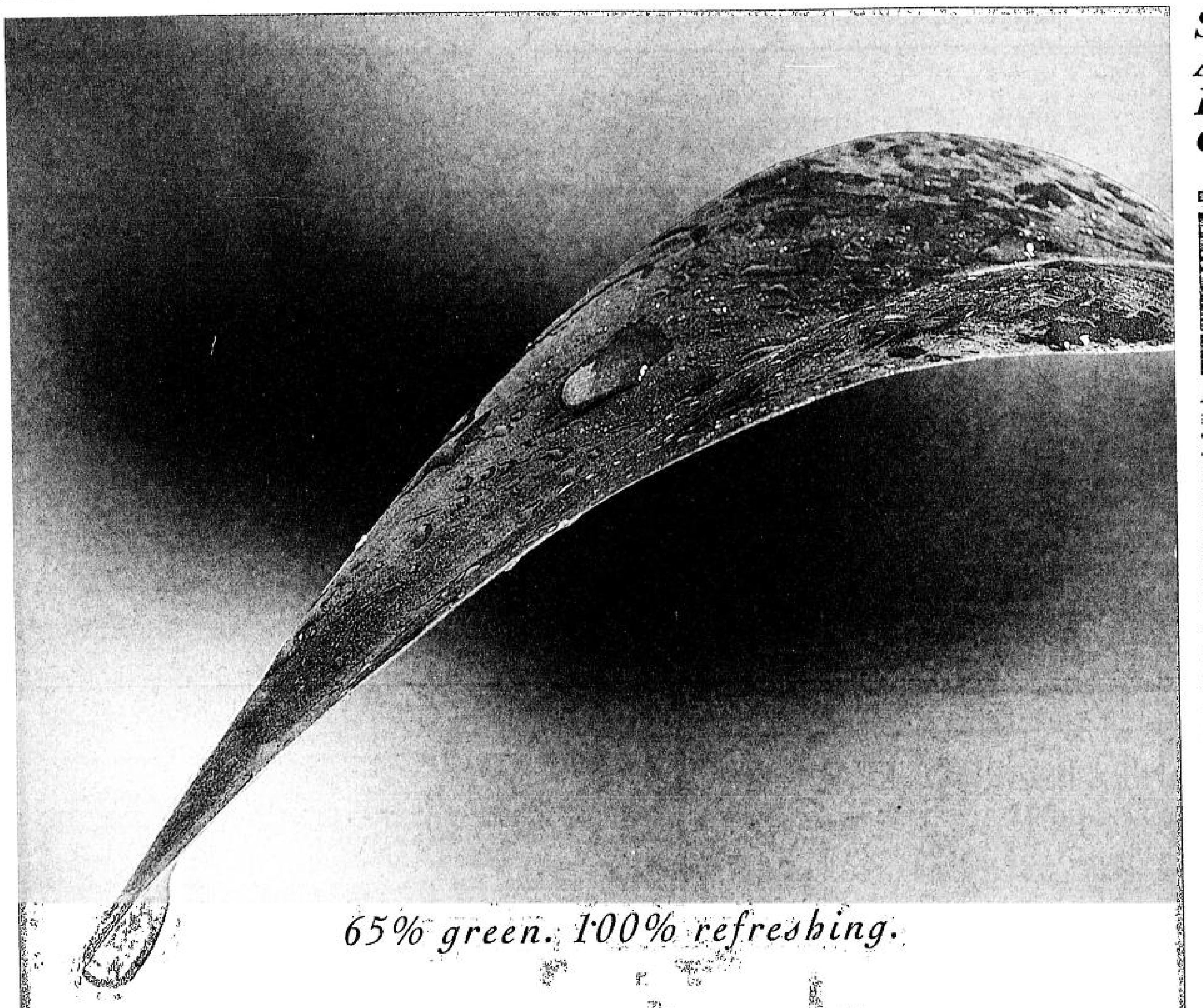

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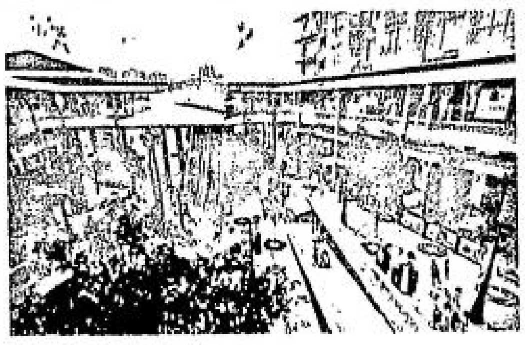

Ayala Land's Serendra breaks new ground in a market crammed with cramped residential options. Located on the sprawling grounds of **Bonifacio Global City, Serendra is a low-density, mid-rise development, over 2/3 of which is devoted to gardens and greenery**. It breathes excitement into the tired scene of standard amenity packages by offering more walkways, bike paths, and numerous swimming and wading pools.

Equally significant is the Piazza at Serendra, a meticulously designed two-level dining and shopping nirvana. Where the pastries of France mingle with the exotic sights and sounds of Morocco, and Chinese silk and Indian weaving meet the impeccable design of Italy. **Marrying the best of indoor comfort and outdoor freshness, this urban haven is the elegant epitome of global cool.** The Piazza at Serendra is just another reason that makes this property one of the most highly coveted residential areas in the country today.

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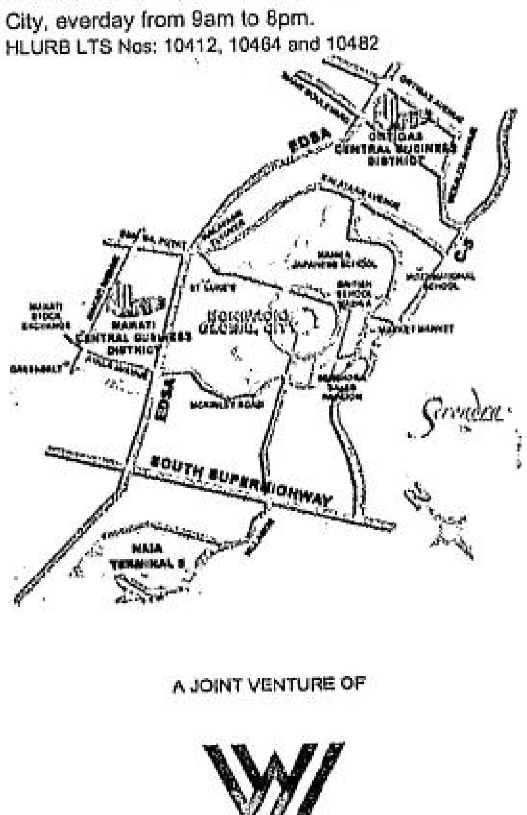

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Fashion aria in Sotto voce

By Cheche V. Moral

AVOWED opera fan Inno Sotto wraps up 2005's fashion calendar with a collection inspired by six popular operas, to be shown at a fundraiser on Dec. 9. At right, one of his sketches for the show.

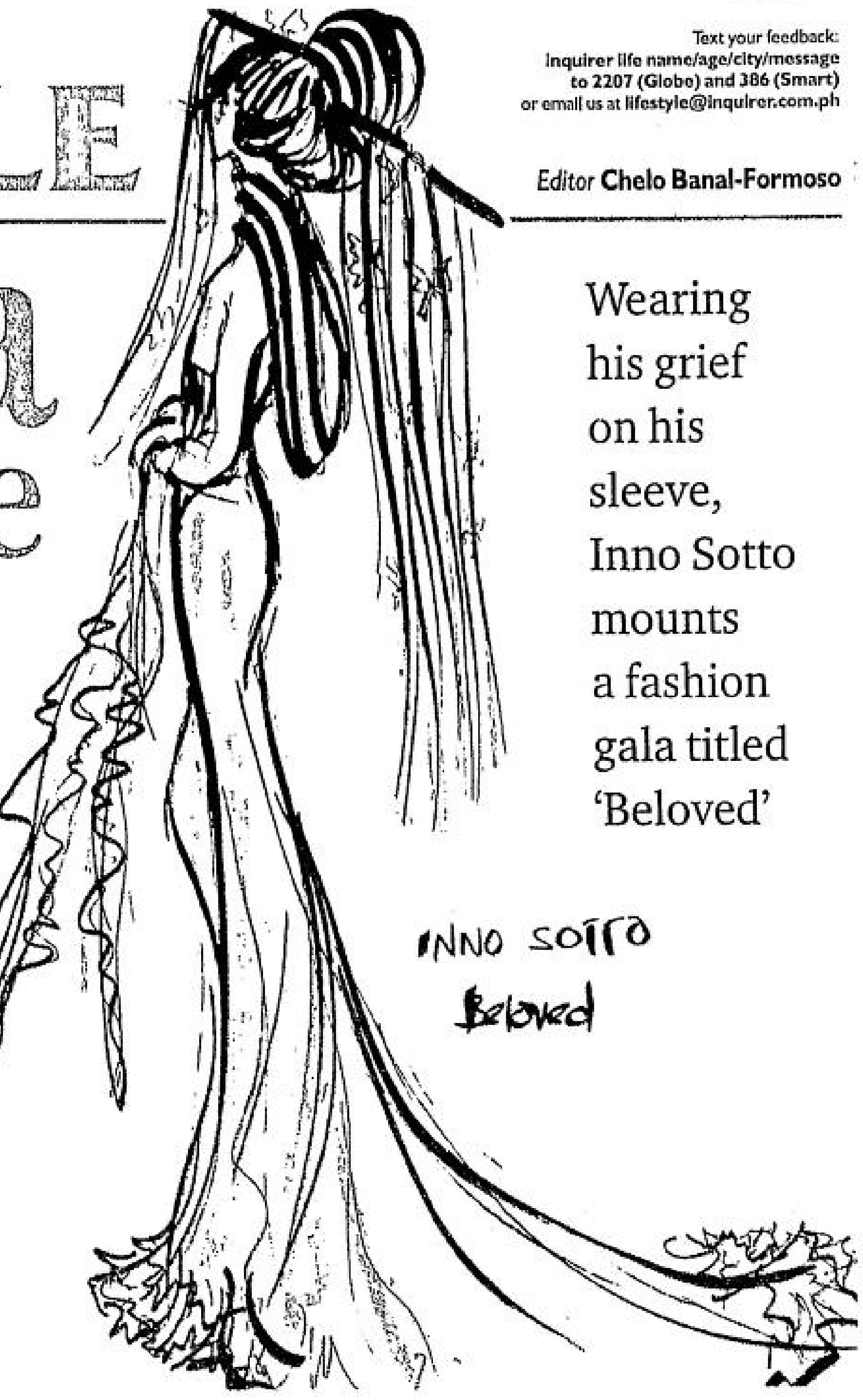
THIS SHOULD PUT WAG-ging tongues to rest: No, Inno Sotto hasn't closed shop. In fact, he is showing a new collection before the year ends.

For the first time since his business partner and longtime companion Richard Tann died, Sotto is set to make himself more visible to Manila society again as he stages "Beloved," his fashion gala, on Dec. 9 at the Makati Shangri-La ballroom for the benefit of the Virlanie Foundation and Gift of Life.

Sotto's 35-piece collection will be preceded by performances from five talents of the Metropolitan Opera of New York singing arias from "Turandot," "Rigoletto," "La Traviata," "Carmen," "Madame Butterfly" and "La Boheme." As such, Sotto's clothes will be based on the operas—"theatrical, a bit out of the ordinary, but more suggestive than costumey," as he described them.

FASHION/ C2

SOTTO'S own beloved, the late Richard Tann. "He brought to life what I wanted," he said of Tann. "I drew something and he thought of the music."



Wearing his grief on his sleeve, Inno Sotto mounts a fashion gala titled 'Beloved'

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Fashion aria in Sotto voce

From page C1

The production team will be made up of some of Sotto's choice collaborators. It will be directed by Melvin Mojica, with styling by Michael Salientes and makeup by Patrick Rosas. Gino Gonzales and Shoko Matsumoto will handle the set and lighting designs, respectively.

The "Beloved" collection will be Sotto's only show this year. He used to do an annual October show, but he has foregone that for the December show. His November show in Cebu has also been moved to early next year. He has had to slow down following Tann's passing, he said, "but if you commit to something and you just have to do it."

Except for brief trips abroad for speaking engagements, Sotto chose to cocoon himself, keeping away from big social gatherings, and only occasionally going out with a close set of friends, all the while burying himself in work. (He finished over a dozen gowns for the annual Tatler ball, where he was an awardee.)

Detachment

By doing so, he was spared the wearying and painful recounting of the events that led to Tann's fatal heart attack in May, on the eve of Sotto's birthday. He was also spared having to answer malicious talks that he had sought solace from drugs and had closed shop.

"I have had to detach myself from many things," Sotto said. The words flowed, almost confiding and calm, but on occasions, so thoughtful you feared he would break into pieces. He didn't. But he asked that the more intimate accounts of the interview be kept from print. He and Tann had kept their private life together to themselves, and this time would be no different.

But since, as they say, the show must go on, it has been inevitable for Sotto to talk in the aftermath of his loss. In the run-up to the "Beloved" show, he has to face the more palpable impact of having lost Tann not only as an intimate but also as a business and creative collaborator.

For 25 years, Tann took charge of Sotto's career. It was the sometime musician who fronted Sotto's business dealings, producing and, for the most part, also helming the creative aspects of the designer's shows.

"Richard was privy to the first glimpses of any of my collections," Sotto said. "We would speak on the phone for three to four times a day, text even more. There was constant updating; it was stimulating. That was the best part of the creative process—picking each other's brain."

Prior to meeting Tann, Sotto treasured his solitude, shunning the hassles of dealing with a manager. The celebrated designer ran his own affairs. This was how he was brought up, he said.

"That's why I'm not clannish... Before Richard, I was alone by choice. I didn't like to deal with others. Now it's not a choice and it's not an easy thing to accept... Now it hits me, there is the absence, the physical separation. There's no more sharing, no communication. I could no longer reach him. That's the most difficult part," he said, pensive and collected.

Resolute

But even as Sotto appears to have just been riding the tide, going through the motions, he has kept surprisingly resolute. He started working on his December collection only a month ago, but all the sketches are nearly finished. The thrill, he explained, is when he sees the first two clothes come to life on a mannequin, when he tweaks and fine-tunes them. This time, he will be mix-and-matching opera pieces.

"People said I'd be crippled [by Richard's passing]. But he had nothing to do with the images on my mind. [Of course] he made them look better, gave them music, made them more intense with his lighting," Sotto said.

If the designer thought people would cut him some slack and spare him the nasty talks after Tann's death, he was mistaken.

At one time, one woman approached him to ask if it were true that Sotto had danced with Tann's corpse before the cremation!

"Can you believe that woman?" he asked. "I couldn't even get mad at her. I wanted to laugh!"

In response to the drugs buzz, Sotto said, "I've been very prolific. I do a show every year. If I had been doing drugs, I wouldn't be able to do all these."

As if to dispel rumors that he has started dating, he has instead lately been taking along his girl Friday on all his social engagements. He rued at not even being able to go watch a ball game without provoking rumors.

"People who say these things obviously have no access to me," he sighed.

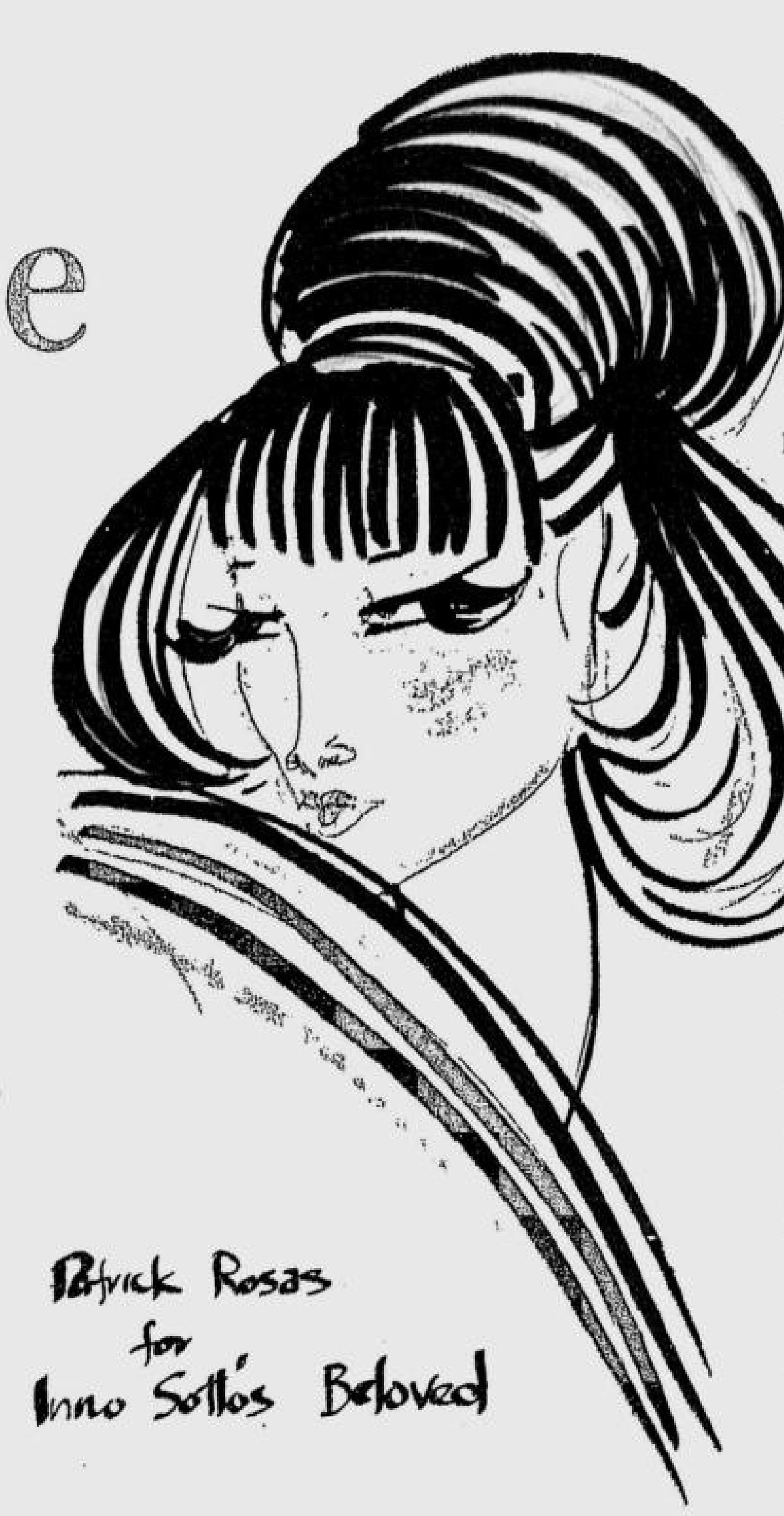
Sotto was able to keep his head above water throughout the ordeal only because he really hadn't the time to grieve. After his shows early next year, he said he will take a sabbatical to be with his family.

"Whatever we go through in life, we are all constantly finding ourselves, he said. "I'm comfortable here."

But in the same vein, he said, "I feel homeless, like I'm in limbo, with no real emotions..."

Of his loss, he added, "Richard was *mabait*, and I'm a far richer person for having had him."

E-mail the author at cmoral@inquirer.com.ph



TYPICAL of an opera, "Beloved" will be "more on styling," with theatrical makeup, naturally.

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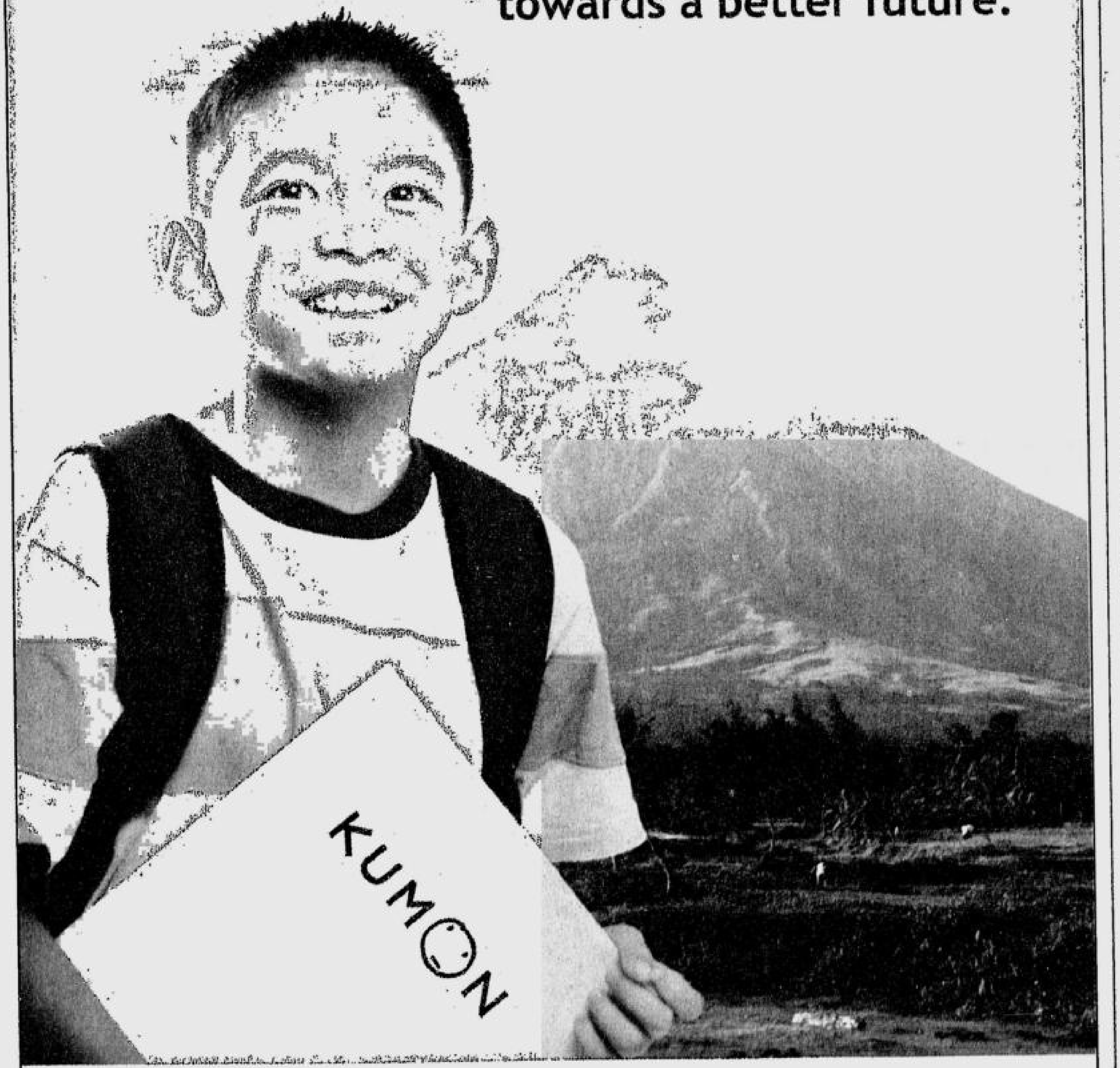

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International bazaar Nov. 13 and 20

THE ZONTA MANILA I and ADBSA International Bazaar will be held 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Nov. 13 and 20, at the Grand Ballroom, San Lorenzo, Forbes and Dasmariñas rooms, Hotel InterContinental, Ayala Avenue, Makati City.

The bazaar will feature 150 concessionaires offering products from more than 20 countries, including the Philippines, Japan, Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka, Austria, Pakistan, Thailand, Mongolia, Ukraine, Nepal, Germany, France, United States, Korea, Canada, United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Italy, Pacific Islands and Morocco.

Proceeds will fund projects of Zonta Manila I and the Asian Development Bank Spouses' Association. One beneficiary is Gawad Kalinga Zontaville composed of three-level apartments for 46 poor families in Mandaluyong City.

Members of the Zonta Manila I organizing committee are Menchu Pascual, Nida Lopez, Baby Perez Sison, Gina Geraldez, Baby de Jesus, Lefty Calma, Mel Reyes, Banjo Dumlao, Fely Umandap, Sol Dizon, Julie Jalbuena, Judy Bacosa, Tonie Lingad, Lulu Castaneda, Pacita Zara, Mel Reyes, Diana Franco, Nonie Basilio and Linda Lugtu Cruz.

ADBSA's organizing committee is composed of Marian Stanley, Emma Murray and country representatives Jo Hunter (Australia); Khalida Azimi (Afghanistan); Budda Tashi (Bhutan); Melissa Albolote and Gill Ferguson (Canada); Suping Zhu and Dandan Wang (China); Marjorie Pillon (France); Dorothee Binsfield (Germany);

Asha Gupta, Smita Poddar, Sangeeta Terway (India); Endang Sugiyarto, Muna S. Zaidansyah, Frieda Tambunan (Indonesia); Ariko Muramoto, Satako Date, Harumi Iwasaki (Japan); Ainura Stanbekova (Kyrgyz Republic); Jaflan Moyes (Mongolia and USA); Larissa Bhandari (Nepal); Diana Guild (New Zealand); Jodam Allingam (Pacific Islands);

Adeline Norton, Quiner Mitra (Singapore/Malaysia); Deepthie Perera (Sri Lanka); Supaporn Kolkma Riyota (Thailand); Zubeda Mohammed, Caroline Ahmad (United Kingdom and Pakistan); Renee Speltz, Marion Bestani (USA); Malika Shagazatova, Firuza Khamudkhanova (Uzbekistan).

Entrance fee is P50. All major credit cards will be accepted. Call 6377926 or 9280512.

MEMBERS of bazaar organizing committee: (front row) chairperson Baby Perez Sison, ADBSA president Marian Stanley, Zonta Manila I president Menchu Pascual; (back row) Letty Calma, Diana Franco, Pacita Zara, Shirin Huda (ADBSA), Nonie Basilio, Emma Murray (ADBSA), Mel Reyes, Lulu Castañeda, co-chair Nida Lopez, Baby de Jesus, Tonie Lingad and Fely Umandap

DANCERS at heart Georgia Osmeña and Maryanne Lumen

SWEET newly-weds Emily and Chot Wong

SEN. Ed and Gloria Angara and Japanese Ambassador Ryuichiro Yamazaki

NEWLY-WED couple Ria and Paolo Prieto

SSI head Anton Huang, Maritess Tantoco Enriquez and Philippe Lacoste

Music makes the world go round

STYLISH set at the Tatler ball: Tim Yap, Ruffa Gutierrez, Rajo Laurel and Donita Rose

From page C4

The band started playing in sync with the fireworks show by Starmaker (call Joey at 0917-8469444). The fireworks were a surprise gift and were a marvelous sight from the veranda of the Tagaytay Midlands Clubhouse.

Music and sound play even a bigger role in visually impaired children. On Nov. 11 and 12, the 1st Parent Congress, Hope for a Brighter Future, will be held at Palm Plaza Hotel. This two-day seminar is for parents, educators, NGOs and others to assess and help improve the education of children who cannot see. For more details, e-mail pavic_phils@yahoo.com or call 7271301.

Next weekend is also the Outrageously Smashin' Assumption badminton tournament. This is the final fundraiser of Assumption Batch '81 for our *velada*, so we will make sure all participants will have generous loot bags and winners will go home with Adidas sportswear and Gosen rackets.

Our major sponsors are PLDT, Adidas, HSBC and Volvo. For those interested, please pick up registration forms from Assumptionista friends or in Milky Way and Urban Spa.

Powerful dancer

With badminton back in my system, I am also starting belly dancing and flamenco workouts. I was totally inspired after watching **Sara Baras**, Spain's hottest flamenco dancer. As part of the Spanish Festival, she performed powerful dances with her company of eight dancers and seven musicians.

The Ginajane Grey School of Dance will have its annual recital with as much enthusiasm on Jan. 22, 2006. The two shows in the RCBC Auditorium will be spectacular, with gorgeous ladies and passionate dancers. I will be one of the plumper dancers, hiding in the back. There is nothing like a bit of confidence, even with a few extra pounds.

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.

TATLER awardee Inno Sotto, Wynn Wynn Ong and Margarita Fores

FELICITY owners Chito Vijandre and Ricky Toledo with Tats Manahan

Pretty sisters Emily Sy Wong and Vey Sy Ng

HAPPY dad Dante Silverio with daughter Kit Zobel

SPAIN'S top flamenco dancer Sara Baras

WONDERFUL friends George Wang, Eileen Grey and Tootie Crisologo

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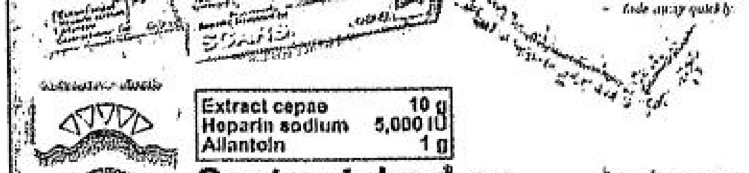

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Twenty years from now, Madonna might finally perform here, perhaps on her Grandma World Tour

FLAMENCO lovers Ginajane Grey, me, Cookie Guerrero, Stella Aguila, Ann Hofer and Marian Zapanta

Music makes the world go round

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

MUSIC MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE in any ceremony. It can magically transform a dull and dreary party into a more lively and festive one, whether it's soft mood music or a full-blown orchestra playing. Unfortunately, music funding is usually one of the first things to suffer in an economic crisis.

It was heartening to note that the Lacoste 12.12 project, a unique, fundraising art auction, chose the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra as its beneficiary. Stores Specialists' president, the glamorous and generous Nedy Tantoco, told me that the PPO is in dire need of new musical instruments, especially its bass section.

Several renowned artists and personalities were invited to create one-of-a-kind *objet d'art* out of the Lacoste 12.12 polo shirt—truly a classic shirt of which almost everyone has at least one.

The country's leading artists, like **Arturo Luz, Impy Pilapil** and architect **Lor Calma**, garnered the top bids with their customized T-shirts transformed into paintings, a stuffed toy and a chair, respectively.

For my Lacoste, I took a beautiful, custom-made **Happy David** necklace and combined it with the shirt to "Tessa-fy" the plain white polo. **Anton Huang's** wife, **Nina**, won my bejeweled and feathery creation. I was amazed several people bid for my piece. It is great to have friends!

For a memorable musical night, catch the Nov. 19 concert of **Teri DeSario** and **Joe Pizzulo**, two of the musical legends of the '70s. The Araneta Coliseum will surely be packed with people from my generation who grew up with their songs. The concert, entitled "Back 2 Basics," will also feature local artists like **Luke Mejares**, Passage Band and **Nina**.

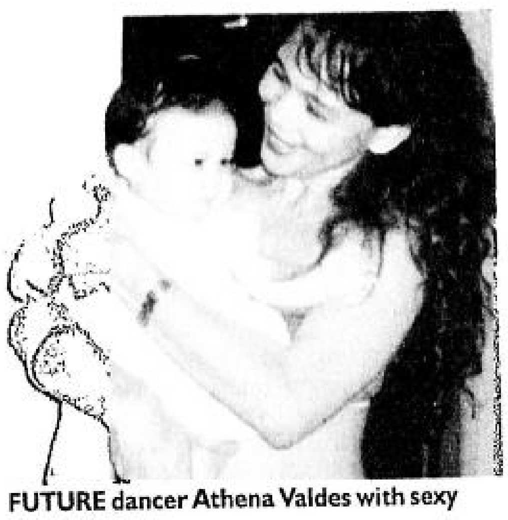
There has been a revival of sorts lately, with artists from the past like the Cascades or Beach Boys from my parents' time and now these two artists from my teen years coming over to entertain us. Twenty years from now, I can only imagine the concerts of Beyonce or J-Lo. Even Madonna might finally perform here, perhaps on her Grandma World Tour.

Elegant wedding

Music defines the ambience of an event, so couples must carefully choose the band or performers at their wedding.

At the recent, elegant wedding party at Edsa Shangri-La Hotel of **Chot** and **Emily Wong**, the classic **Bernie Pasamba** strings provided the dinner music. **Joshua Tiu** and **Gerard Sison** also serenaded the couple's guests while the newlyweds did the traditional table-hopping for photos. Top wedding photographer **Pat Dy** got everyone to look good by asking them to pose "with a little more love."

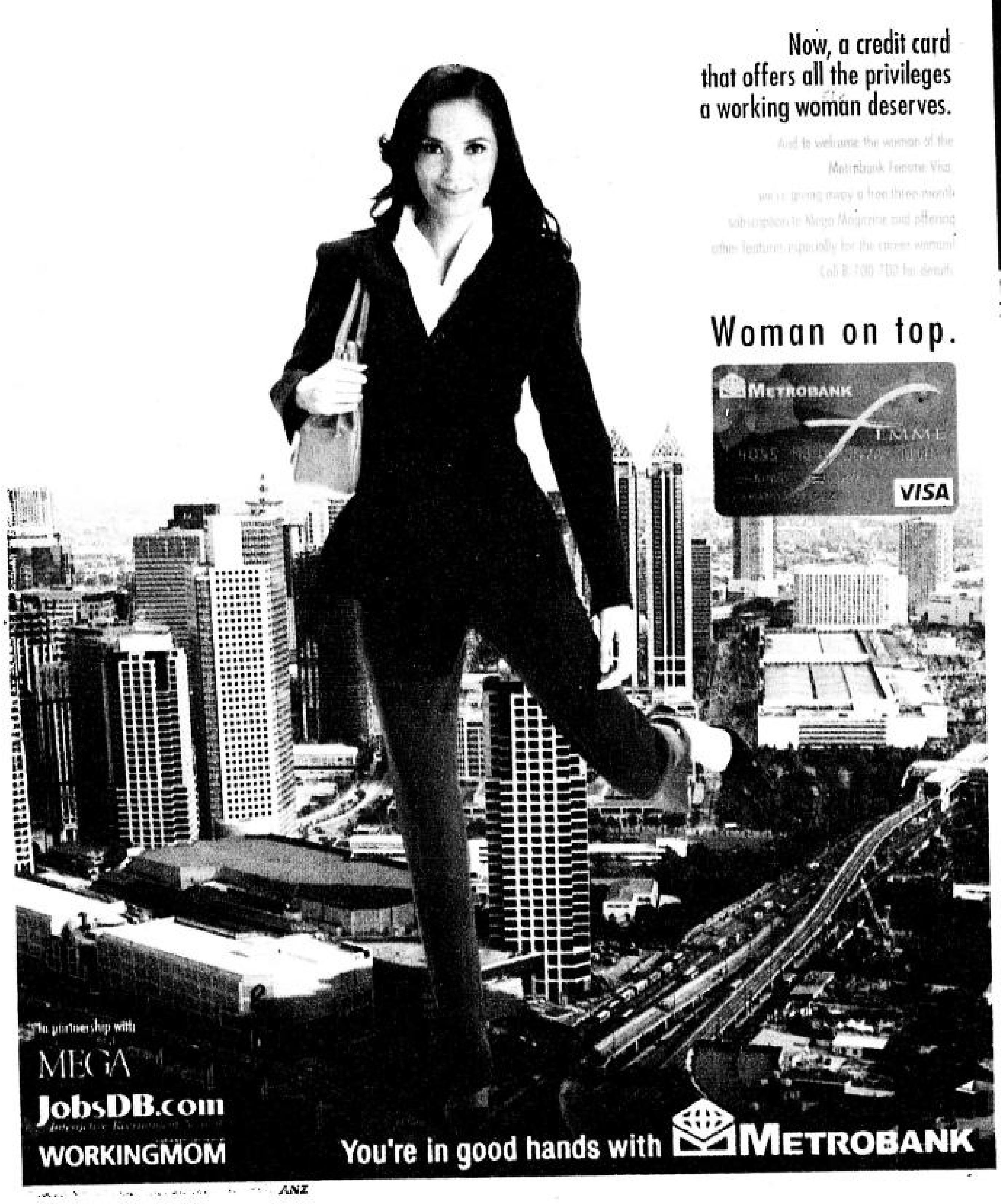
Pat was also chief photographer at my youngest brother **Paolo Prieto**'s wedding to pretty **Ria Francisco**. Upbeat mood music was provided by Time and A Half, as Paolo and Ria, an outgoing pair, opted for dancing music after the dinner and speeches.



FUTURE dancer Athena Valdes with sexy Ginajane Grey

GENEROUS Gina Lopez and Citibank CEO James Hunt

LACOSTE artist Tom Zita between Gigi Mabanta and Joy Wassmer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YOSHIHIRO Murata Kaiseki menu for Singapore Airlines' First Class

Wine bar in the clouds

KRUG. Excellent champagne, house pour for First Class

Singapore Airlines gives INQUIRER a peek at its wine selection and a foretaste of its Hanagoyomi menu

Text by Tita Meneses-Trillo
Contributor
Photos by Rachel M. Sugay

WHICH SELF-RESPECTING wine lover would pass up a once-in-a-lifetime invitation to sample Grand Crus of different appellations, sip Dom

WINE/ D2

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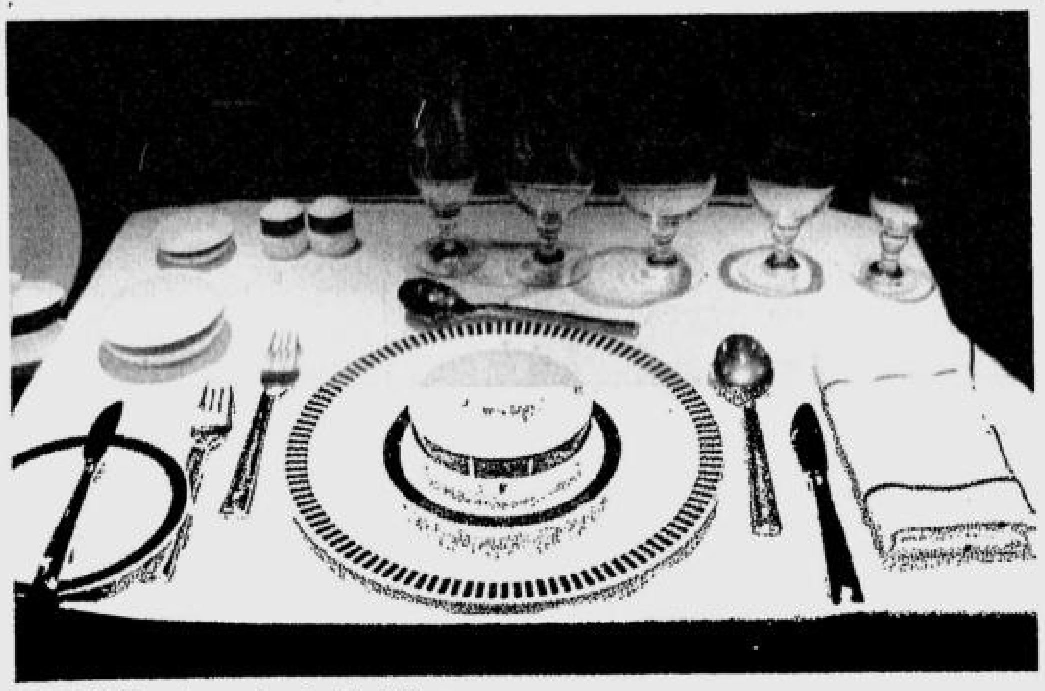


GIVENCHY cutlery setup for First Class

Wine bar *in the clouds*

From page D1

Perignon, be waited on hand and foot and meet with some of the most respected names in the wine industry?

I wouldn't, so I attended Singapore Airlines' wine seminar and the launch of Hanagayomi.

For me, the highlight of the trip was the chance to meet Singapore Airlines' International Wine Panel consultants comprising Steven Spurrier, Anthony Dias Blue and Michael Hill-Smith. They were in town to do their bi-annual wine selection for the airline and we had the chance to see them in action and to dine with them, no less!

The trio's combined palates and extensive experience and awards in the wine industry help to create an award-winning wine list every time. Steven Spurrier, who hails from the United Kingdom, is consulting editor of Decanter Magazine. American Anthony Dias Blue is a well-known food and wine personality. Michael Hill-Smith is the first Australian to pass the Master of Wine examination in 1988.

From the onset, it is apparent that the three wine panelists, although each very different in style and approach, share a warm camaraderie. It's no surprise to find out that they have been doing this for the airline for more than 15 years, since the inception of the Wine Panel in 1989. Their selection process was a very informal affair—a meeting room setup with foldable tables and topped with rows of wine bottles covered in foil.

Consider the staggering statistics: the airline serves approximately 1.75 million bottles of wine on board a year, spending over S$17 million across all classes.

It's no easy feat to blind-taste up to 1,200 bottles of wine and champagne a year, but the three did it with such panache. And things are expected to get more interesting. Based on a recent survey, it seems that passengers are getting savvier about wines. Nowadays, wine drinkers are less likely to cite country of origin as a key factor in wine preference (for example, wines from France or Germany) but are now being varietal-specific (for example, a Shiraz, a Chardonnay or a Cabernet Sauvignon).

The day was capped off with a dinner with the wine consultants at My Humble House restaurant, which is a misnomer. We were treated to a six-course Chinese feast of such delightful treats, artfully concocted and prepared by Chef Sam Leong, a member of the airline's culinary panel. The courses also had inspired names which sounded like the titles of the latest *gong-fu* blockbuster movies. There was, for example, Dancing with the Wind, wok-fried selected wild mushroom with dry scallop accompanied with conic morel *consommé*. Night is in the Air was stir-fried beef tenderloin in black pepper sauce accompanied with fish noodles. The course, which was truest to its name, Tender, Delightful, Divine, was the wok-grilled pork rib in smoked barbecue sauce accompanied with a crispy cigar bun.

As if the dinner wasn't icing enough on the cake, all courses were paired with a selection of the airline's current first-class pours—a 2003 Dr. Loosen Erdener Treppchen Riesling Kabinett, a 2004 Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc, a 1998 Chateau Cos D'Estournel St. Estephe and a 1999 Sequoia Grove Cabernet Sauvignon. All were perfect accompaniments to the food, and I would be hard-pressed to name a favorite although the Cos D'Estournel and Dr. Loosen left me with a very favorable impression.

If there is a wine panel, there is a corresponding food panel composed of eight international chefs—Satish Arora, Georges Blanc, Alfred Portale, Nancy Oakes, Yashihiro Murata, Sam Leong, Gordon Ramsay and Yeung Koon Yat.

Fine-dining options include Book the Cook—which lets First and Raffles Class passengers preselect their menu, from over a dozen menus of Asian and western specialties and "Yummy"—which is the children's version of Book the Cook.

Autumn in a box

Hanagoyomi, the newest Japanese menu developed by Japanese chef Yoshihiro Murata for business-class passengers, is being launched this month on selected flights between Singapore and Tokyo, Nagoya, Osaka and Fukuoka.

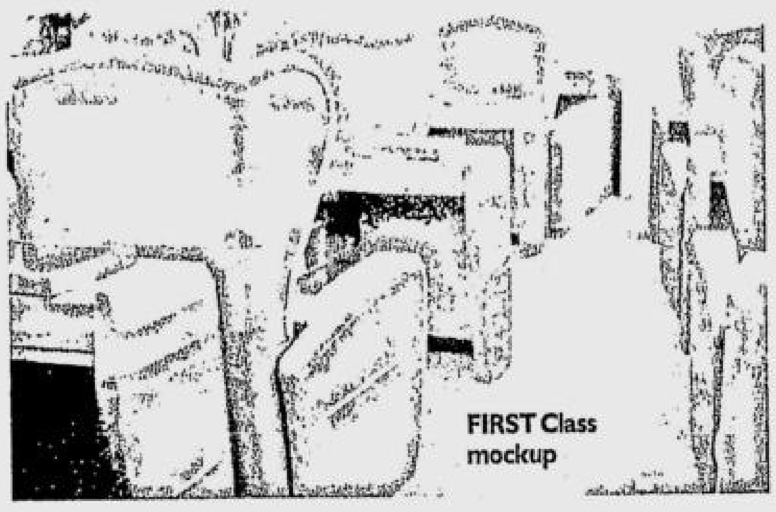
The menu is changed every three months and is based on whatever seasonal ingredients are available. Hanagoyomi consists of nine appetizers and entrées, each artfully presented in small compartments within a larger box and served in the traditional Japanese style. The Autumn menu was served at the launch and one of the dishes was steamed rice with matsutake mushroom—apparently such a prized delicacy in Japan that a kilo can cost as much as US$500.

Sometimes, as in this case, it's not the destination that counts, but the journey.

BUSINESS Raffles Class cutlery setting

WINE Masters of the World. Steven Spurrier, author, Anthony Dias Blue and Michael Hill-Smith

HANAGOYOMI winter, spring, autumn and summer menus



FIRST Class mockup

CHEF Sam Leong, member of Singapore Airlines' culinary panel

TRAVELBRIEFS

Luxury property exceeds target

OAKWOOD PREMIER AYALA CENTER is exceeding its revenue targets for the year by focusing on new businesses. It is one of the top performers among Makati's luxury properties, posting an average 82 percent year-to-date occupancy rate in August, higher than the industry average of 71 percent, despite the prevailing uncertainty.

Al Legaspi, Oakwood Premier Ayala Center's resident manager, said this was the result of their focus on emerging business and engaging in aggressive niche marketing. Legaspi said executives appreciated, in addition to living comfortably in Oakwood residences with its full kitchen amenities with deluxe hotel services, among others, they could also conduct their business at the establishment's serviced offices. Oakwood, he said, was seen as a convenient one-stop facility. Repeat guests also helped Oakwood meet and exceed its targets. Studies showed that a guest would stay again in the luxury complex on his next visit. Another survey showed that the Ayala Center establishment was ranked among the top Oakwood properties around the world in terms of guest satisfaction. Oakwood Premier Ayala Center is in the heart of Makati's financial district, within walking distance of the country's top 100 corporations. Call 7558800 or visit www.oakwood.com.

Destination roadshows

SINGAPORE Tourism Board-Philippines will mount a series of destination road shows in leading Metro Manila shopping malls. The road show series features a fun game where shoppers can get the chance to win free round-trip tickets to Singapore and other special prizes. The road show series will be launched at the Podium on Nov. 5-6, Festival Supermall in Alabang on Nov. 12-13, Gateway Mall in Cubao on Nov. 19-20, and Eastwood City in Libis on Nov. 26-27. Call STB-P at 8130946 for details.

Christmas banquet packages

THE RICHMONDE hotel offers special Christmas banquet packages for P25,500+ and P38,800+ for a party of 25 and a minimum of 50, respectively. Freebies include complimentary overnight stay in a superior room with buffet breakfast for two, gift certificates for buffet lunch for two at the Grill, complimentary Happy Hour package for two at Exchange Bar and complimentary food and beverage voucher worth P500. Call 6387777.

Beauty holidays

BEAUTY Holidays tour package combines a vacation and surgical treatment by top plastic surgeons. The package was first launched by Travelpros in the west coast cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles last May.

It includes airline booking, land transfers, hotel bookings, pre-surgery consultation, medical tests and arrangements for the surgery. After surgery, clients are shuttled to their dream destination where they can enjoy the sights and rest. Call 6340265 to 66/ 6316392/ 6343109.

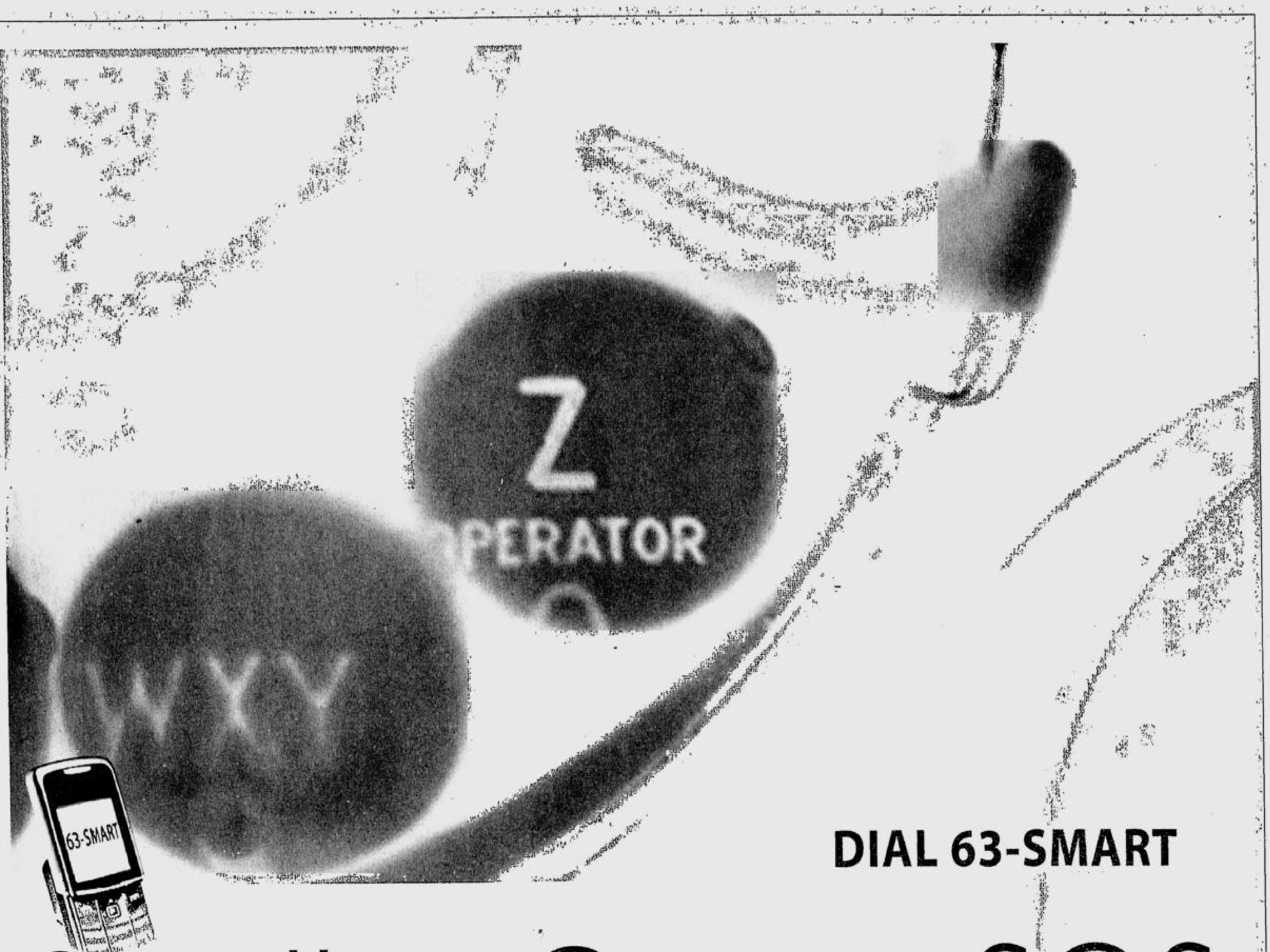
Haven in Calatagan

THE GOLDEN Sunset Resort in Calatagan, Batangas, is a place for relaxation. It has pool and picnic tables, huge swimming pool, volleyball court, open-air dining gazebo, open-air massage pavilions, garden cove with 10 rooms, air-conditioned seminar rooms, 75 rooms which can accommodate 140 people and a dormitory for 42 persons. Call 6361687/ 6343109.

World Heritage City celebrates

VIGAN City recently commemorated the sixth year of being included on the World Heritage Cities list of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Theme this year is "Nurturing Our Cultural Heritage in the Information Age." The celebration included museum visits, "Gameng" Exhibit (Treasure Collections Exhibit), Photograph of Memories contest, parade, cultural show and food fair.

ASIANA AIRLINES GETS LARGER PLANE
Multi-awarded carrier Asiana Airlines (OZ) has acquired a Boeing 777 for its Manila-Incheon afternoon flights to increase passenger capacity. The new aircraft seats 35 passengers in the Business Class and up to 275 in Economy. Seats are individually equipped with audiovisual screens in the Economy. Evening flights from Clark Airfield and Cebu City are also shifting to a Boeing 767 with a seating capacity of 12 in Business Class and 242 in Economy. Asiana Airlines now flies 22 times a week from Manila, Clark Airfield and Cebu City to Incheon International Airport, Asiana's international hub.



Sending Out an SOS

SMART Infinity's International Concierge Saves the Day

Kenneth Sy is relatively young to have earned the title President and CEO printed on his calling card. As head honcho for Trans-Asia Shipping Lines, Inc., this Cebu-based executive certainly has it made. The eldest of a brood of four, who help him run the family business, Kenneth is perpetually on the go. Whether it's for business or pleasure, being mobile with a reliable wireless provider is of utmost importance, especially for a man of Kenneth's stature.

"I joined SMART Infinity when they launched the service 2 years ago. It is very different from other networks, particularly because they have personal account managers who visit and call me to ensure everything is in order", attests Kenneth with satisfaction. This kind of efficient service truly paid dividends for Kenneth on a recent trip abroad accompanied by his lovely wife, Sheila Fay-Sy.

SMART infinity
Enjoy life's best.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Sy share a light moment in Saigon

Kenneth blending in with the locals

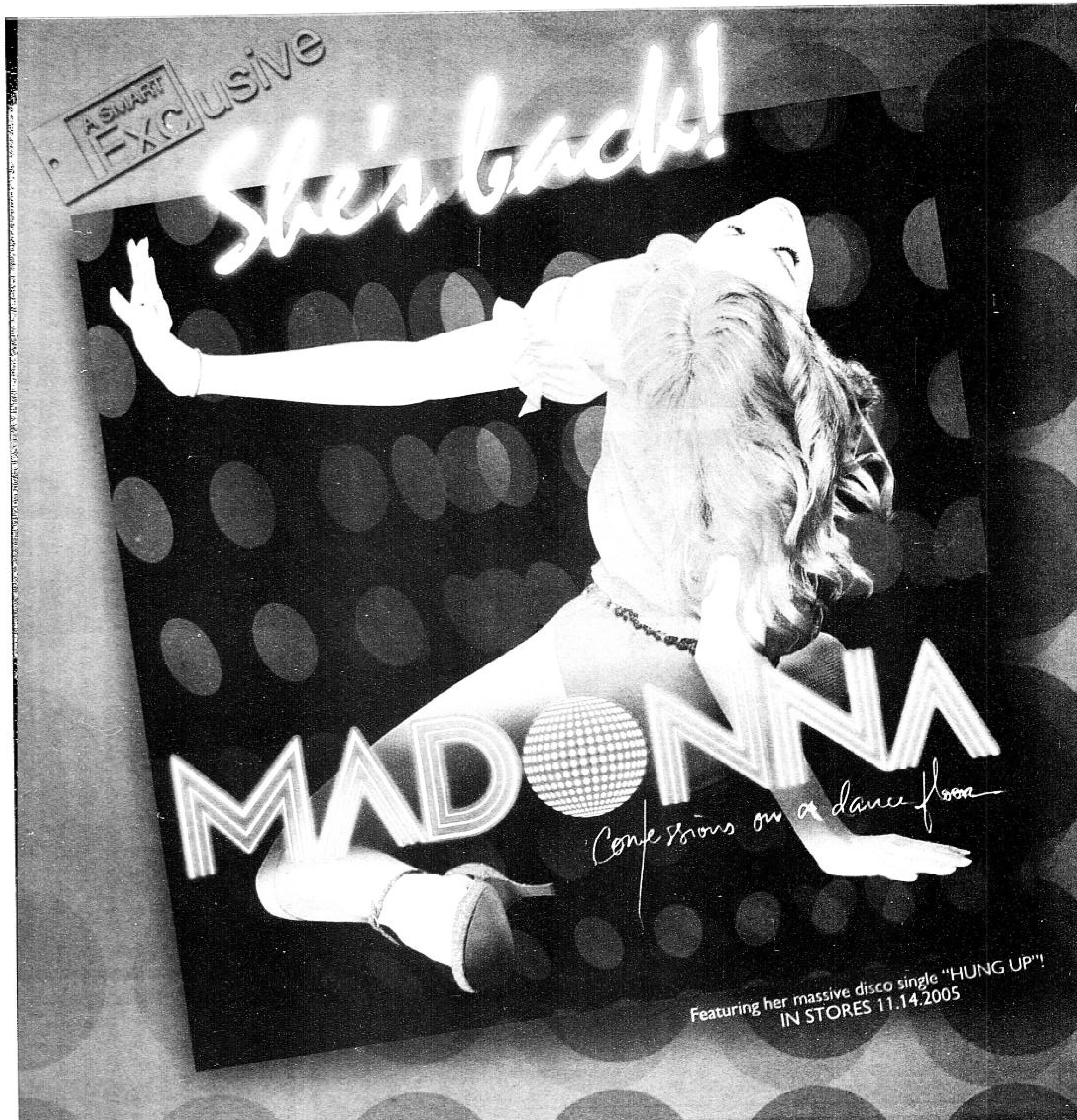
Recounting his experience with International Concierge in Vietnam

One of SMART Infinity's unique features is the International Concierge, a 24-hour emergency hotline accessible to SMART Infinity subscribers who simply have to dial 63-SMART from their SMART Infinity handsets. As Kenneth recounts, "My first experience with International Concierge was when I was in Vietnam recently. I was having a problem because *pauwi na ako ng Maynila* (I was on my way home to Manila) that time and I had no hotel reservations. The hotel I usually stayed in was fully booked because of a convention they were hosting. That's when I decided to call International Concierge to help find me a room". Before catching his flight out of Saigon back to Manila, Kenneth had already phoned International Concierge and spoken with an operator who took down details such as his budget for the room and the duration of their stay. "They called me back before I even left Saigon to inform me that they found us a room at the Sheraton and that everything had been taken care of." Needless to say, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Sy had a pleasant flight back to Manila, with peace of mind and a reservation at a top hotel upon their arrival.

From the NAIA, the couple headed straight for a friend's dinner party and by the time they decided to call it a day, it was close to midnight. They checked into their hotel room, completely beat, and got their well-deserved rest. From sheer exhaustion, the couple woke up the following morning later than they had hoped with barely enough time to catch their domestic flight home to Cebu. Half way to the airport, they realized that they had forgotten the souvenirs they had bought in Vietnam at the hotel. "We were mobile already going to the airport and had no time to turn back, so I called International Concierge again. I gave them the room number we had just checked out of and told them I forgot something in the room. International Concierge then relayed this info to the hotel", explains Kenneth. "When I went back to Manila two weeks later, I was able to claim the items I had forgotten in the room, thanks to International Concierge and Sheraton".

Because of the nature of Kenneth's business, meetings on short notice are not unusual. On a separate occasion, Kenneth suddenly found himself bound for Manila and his usual hotel was once again fully booked. On the way to the airport, he dialled 63-SMART and International Concierge soon found him a room at CEO Suites in Jupiter, Makati. "It's a very convenient service. If I need to make a reservation at a restaurant, they can arrange that too. It's like having your own personal secretary, 24-hours on-call", he quips.

International Concierge allows SMART Infinity subscribers to make practically any arrangements, at any time and through the help of efficient operators. Whether you want to secure movie or concert tickets, find out mass schedules, rent a private jet or simply have flowers delivered, it's a standard feature when you sign up for a SMART Infinity Plan. And it's all geared towards helping you enjoy life's best.



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IN STORES 11.14.2005

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Burning Up	BURNUP
La Isla Bonita	LAISLA
Like a Virgin	LYKAVIRGIN
Lucky Star	LUCKYSTAR
Open Your Heart	OPENURHRT
Deeper and Deeper	DEEPER
Erotica	EROTICA
Ray Of Light	RAYOFLYT
American Life	AMLIFE
Don't Tell Me	TELLME

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LIKE A VIRGIN	103905
LUCKY STAR	103906
OPEN YOUR HEART	106907
DEEPER AND DEEPER	103908
EROTICA	103909
RAY OF LIGHT	103910
AMERICAN LIFE	103911
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SOLIS-ZAMORA NUPTIALS

On wings of love

LOVE-HUEY. Air Force Capt. Robert and Eliza Solis go airborne.

IT WAS A TYPICAL MEDIA SITUATION. A group of journalists needed to cover an encounter between government troops and militants in Jolo.

But the military could only allow a few reporters on the Air Force helicopter. One account had it that the newsmen settled the problem by drawing lots while the women went on charm offensive.

The strategy seemed to work. One pilot was apparently charmed by a leggy television reporter that he flew her and her crew to the battle site, then brought them back to Zamboanga City.

Three weeks later, the pilot arrived in Manila. He was smitten by the intrepid broadcaster. But what if all she wanted was a free helicopter ride to Jolo?

They met again, and again, and again, and again...

Early this year, Air Force Capt. Robert Solis and Probe Team producer/reporter Eliza Zamora were married at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, capping a charming air-and-land modern day romance that got the nod even of the military hierarchy.

Welcome union

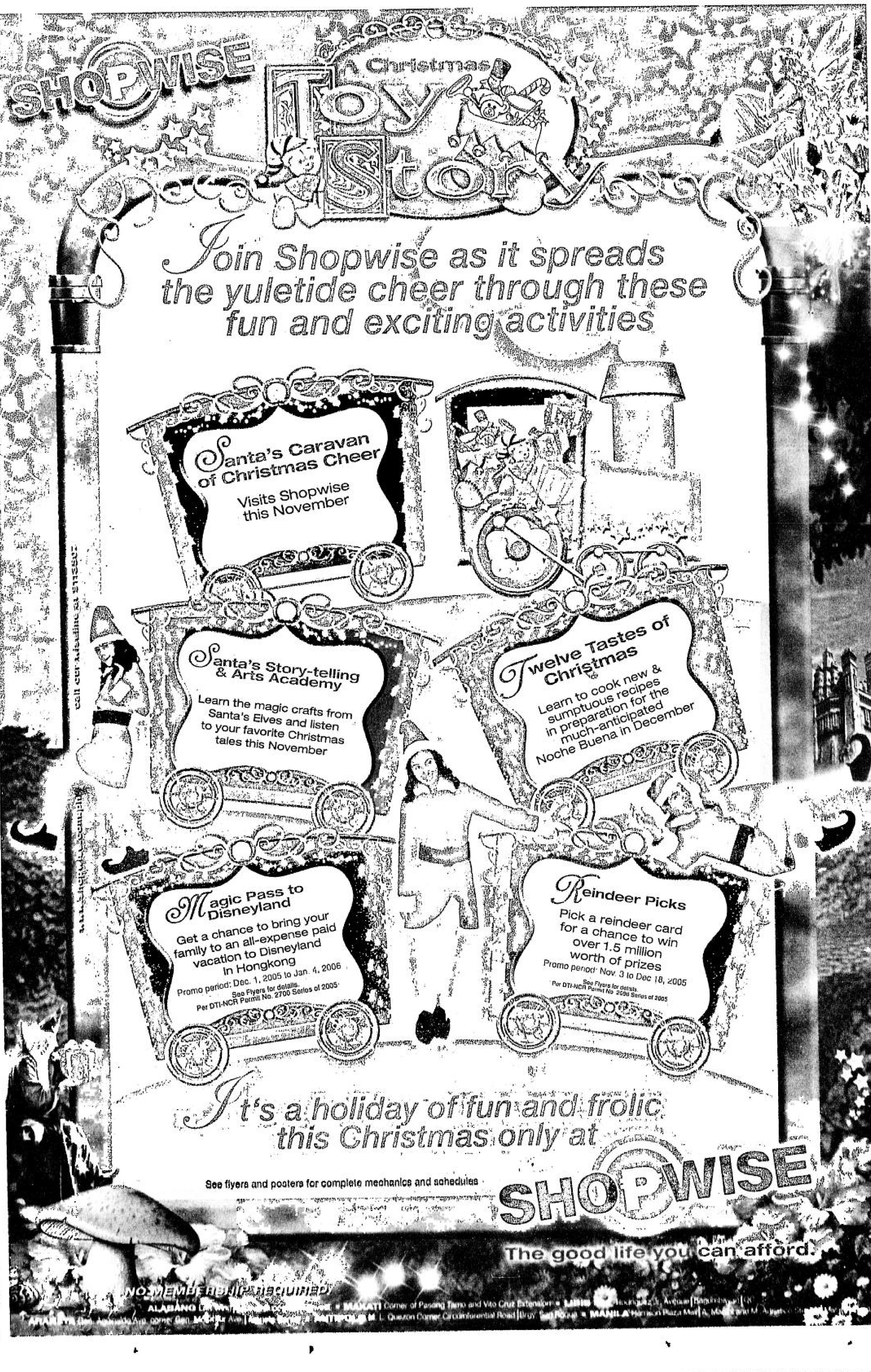
It was one union anybody would have wanted to see. The media and the military wedded forever, vowing to be patient with each other's excesses and shortcomings.

Even the officiating priest, Fr. Antonio Ma. Rosales, OFM, couldn't help but comment on how the media and the military finally agreed to agree.

The couple's family was there to celebrate with them. Robert's parents, Samuel Solis and Teresita Juntilla, flew in from the United States for the wedding. Eliza's mother, Evelyn Valeriano, was subdued, but her father, Edwin Zamora, seemed bursting with joy.

Of course, the couple's friends were there to witness and cheer the newlyweds. Johnny Litton and Che Che Lazaro led the principal sponsors that included Howie Severino and Maria Ressa, lawyer Andres Santos and Fe Zamora, PAF Capt. (ret.) Amado Soliman Jr. and Karen Davila, Maj. Gen. Romeo Tolentino and Marie Mamawal, Brig. Gen. Horacio Tolentino and Dr. Ma. Salvacion Navarro, Brig. Gen. Reu Lucio Samaco and Elseen Quinzon, and Air Force spokesperson Lt. Col. Restituto Padilla Jr. and Carmelita de Leon-Liwanag.

ON WINGS E3



SHOPWISE
A Christmas Toy Story

Join Shopwise as it spreads the yuletide cheer through these fun and exciting activities

Santa's Caravan of Christmas Cheer
Visits Shopwise this November

Santa's Story-telling & Arts Academy
Learn the magic crafts from Santa's Elves and listen to your favorite Christmas tales this November

Twelve Tastes of Christmas
Learn to cook new & sumptuous recipes in preparation for the much-anticipated Noche Buena in December

Magic Pass to Disneyland
Get a chance to bring your family to an all-expense paid vacation to Disneyland in Hongkong
Promo period: Dec. 1, 2005 to Jan. 4, 2006
See Flyers for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2700 Series of 2005

Reindeer Picks
Pick a reindeer card for a chance to win over 1.5 million worth of prizes
Promo period: Nov. 3 to Dec 18, 2005
See Flyers for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2698 Series of 2005

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St. Philomena answers prayer of Pinoy in Cleveland

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

BALIKBAYAN ARCHITECT CAROLINE Katigbak, who lives in Cleveland, Ohio, with her husband Nestor, sent a testimony to the Universal Living Rosary Center in Quezon City of the miracle wrought by God through the intercession of St. Philomena.

The couple used to visit the shrine of St. Philomena in Navarre, Ohio, which Caroline designed. Through the help of devotees, especially Dr. Henedine Aldana and Dr. Benjie Aldana, the shrine was completed. When Nestor Katigbak saw the intense devotion to St. Philomena, he himself asked a favor from the saint.

Last year, he prayed that, before he retired from Pfizer, he would become No. 1 salesman in the district of Cleveland. Every morning, Caroline and Nestor would light a candle and pray before the picture of St. Philomena.

Before the start of 2005, Nestor received a quarterly report saying he was not only the No. 1 salesperson of Pfizer in Cleveland, but was also No. 1 in the Great Lakes region and in the whole United States.

In thanksgiving, Nestor has tied the St. Philomena cord to his arm near his watch.

Those who wish to receive prayer cards of St. Philomena can write to the Universal Living Rosary at 470 Mayon St., Quezon City.

Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Those who want to join the Living Rosary can ask for application forms from the same address.

Commitment

Milagros Dolores has made the propagation of the devotion to Our Lady under the title "Virgin of the Poor" her lifetime commitment. She wrote a book, "The Virgin of the Poor; a Tribute from Her Filipino Children," where she talked about the messages of the Virgin during her apparitions in Banneux, Belgium, and the history of the devotion in the Philippines.

The book is available in Merriam & Webster, Goodwill and National Book Stores. Mila speaks fluent French and, for one whole month, she served at the international secretariat in the Virgin's shrine in Banneux translating documents from French to English.

The Philippines' lone replica of the Chapel of the Apparitions is located in the 10-ha Sisters of Mary Girlstown in Silang, Cavite. A replica of the shrine's spring is also being constructed.

Also under construction is a repository of the memorabilia of the congregation's founder, Servant of God Msgr. Aloysius Schwartz, funded by grateful alumni of Sisters of Mary schools in Korea, Philippines, Mexico, Guatemala and Brazil.

De Foucauld's phrases

"The Wisdom of Charles de Foucauld" is a book featuring 422 phrases of the monk who lived in the Sahara Desert after his ordination as priest in 1901.

De Foucauld founded the Union of Brothers and Sisters of the Sacred Heart that was committed to the evangelization of the Tuaregs.

In 1916, in a skirmish among Berbers of Hogger, De Foucauld was shot dead. He was 58. He will be beatified in Rome on Nov. 13.

De Foucauld wrote: "The priest is a monstrance whose obligation is to show Jesus. The priest must disappear, so that others can see only Jesus."

Pilgrimage

Adam's Travel is organizing a pre-Christmas pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Jordan and Egypt Nov. 21-Dec. 2.

Aside from sacred places in Israel, the pilgrimage will cover the pyramids of Giza in Egypt, the treasury of Petra, the Egyptian Museum in Cairo and the St. Catherine Monastery under Mount Sinai. Call 5211651 or text 0922-5180906.

Eucharistic Congress

The Eucharistic League of Adorers will sponsor the 18th Eucharistic Congress 7 a.m.-5 p.m., Nov. 28, at the St. Joseph Adoration Convent, 71 Hemady Ave. cor. 11th St. New Manila, QC.

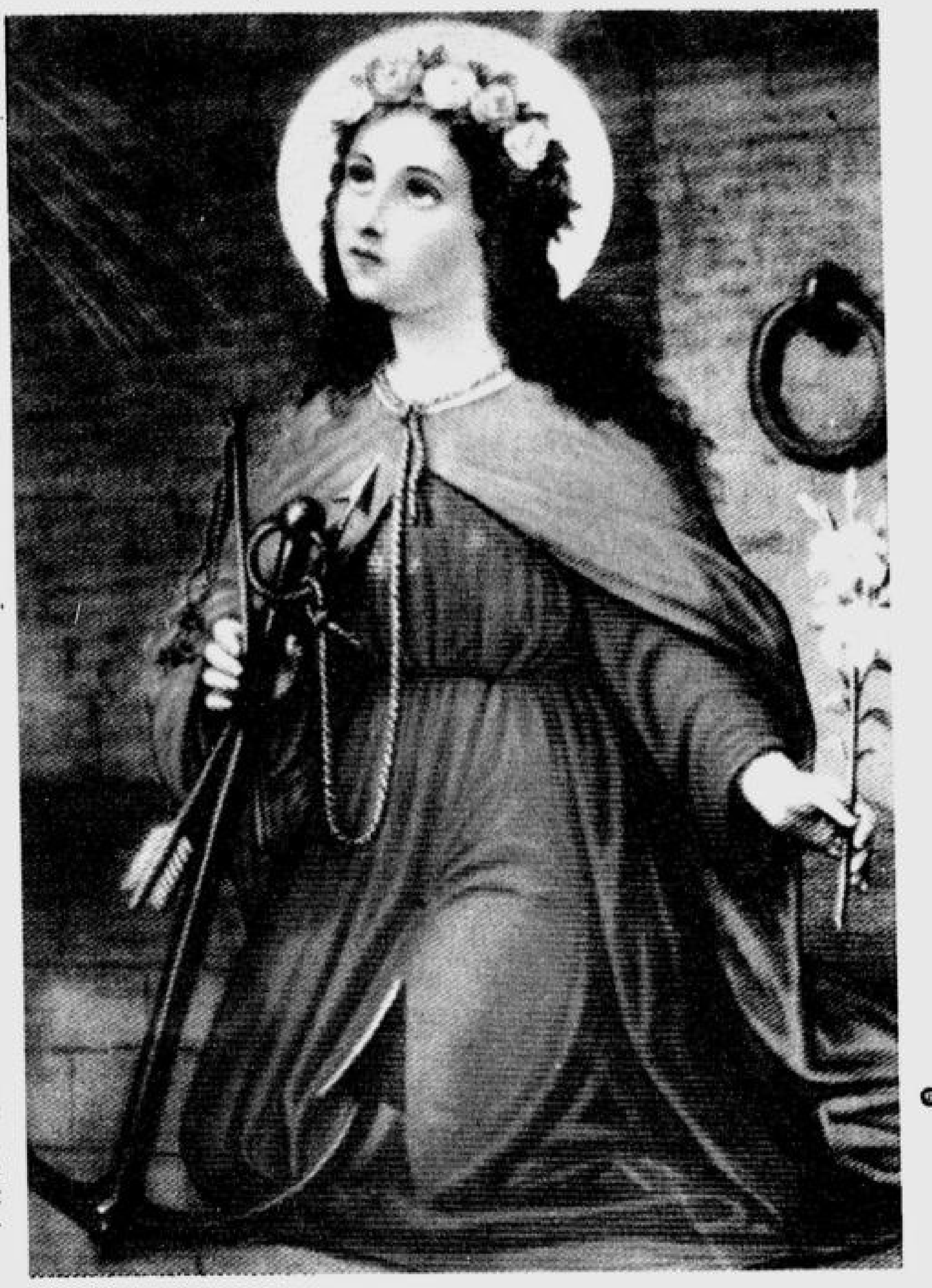
Fundraiser

The Breezewoods Development Corporation and the Real Estate Brokers Association of the Philippines (Rebap) will hold the Rebap Pasig Corp. Golf Tournament 7 a.m., Nov. 11, at the Valley Golf and Country Club in Antipolo. The P2,000 fee per player will go to the Ugong Senior Citizens Association and the medical mission of the Rotary Club of New Manila.

Spearheading the fund drive are Breezewoods president Francisco J. Buencamino, and Romy Judan, Rebap Pasig chapter president. Event organizer is Nino Sinco.

Supporting the activity are Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation, Gatorade, Jackbilt, Manilabank, DHL, Boysen Paints, Subdivision Housing and Builders Association, Kelly Hardware and Red Sports on Wave 89.1.

Fax entries to 8818098, call 4267690, or text 0917-8585238 or 0927-5303231.



ST. PHILOMENA

A MEMORANDUM of agreement is signed between Breezewoods Development Corporation and the Rebap Pasig chapter for their fundraising project via the 2005 Pasig Cup Golf Tournament to be held at the Valley Golf Country Club in Antipolo City on Nov. 11. Seated: Roger Arambulo, Romy Judan, president of Rebap Pasig chapter; Francisco Buencamino, president of Breezewoods Development Corp.; Nanett Sinco, tournament coordinator. Standing: Cherith Domingo, Rebap national president, Billie Pilar, VP Rebap Pasig chapter, Annie Mojica, Rebap national director; Eca Gonzalez and Nida Lopez, Rebap members; Nino Sinco, event organizer

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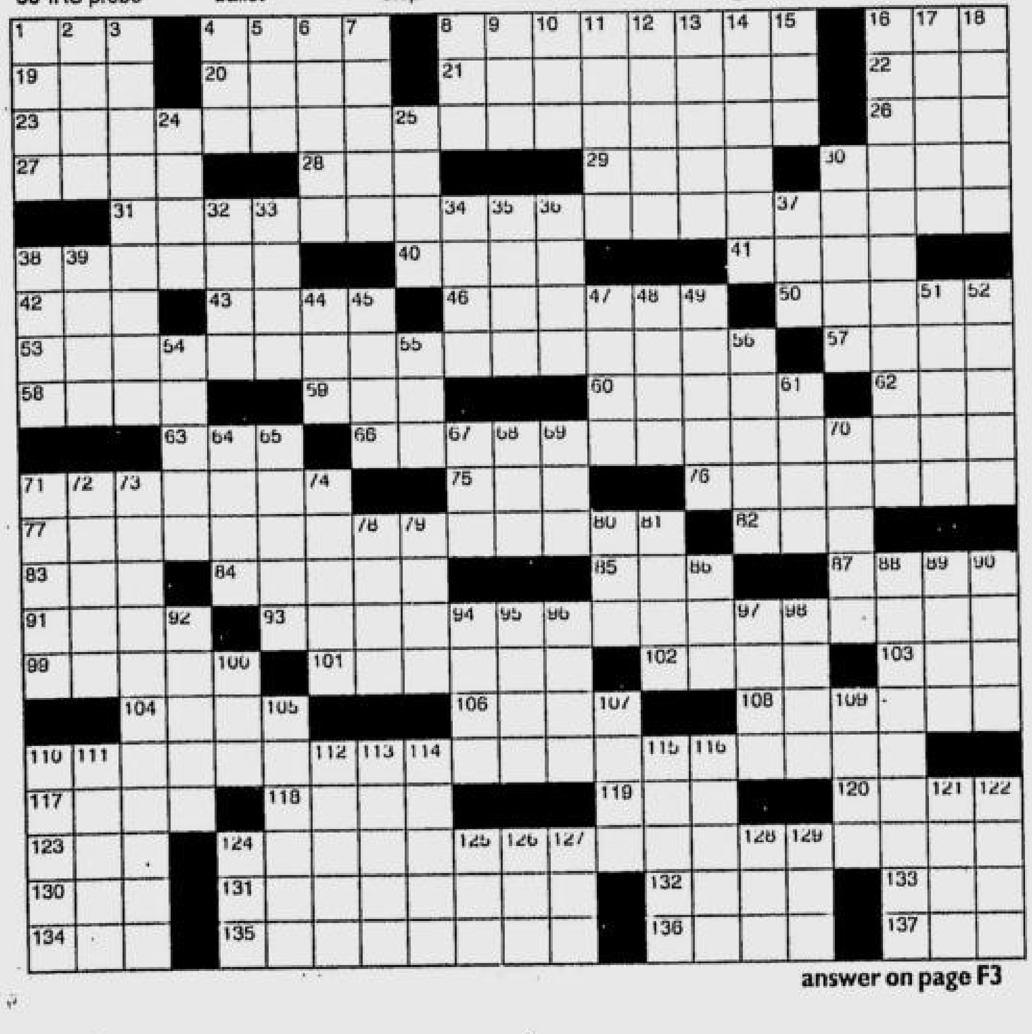
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

PUN-CH

ACROSS
1 Part of "mph"
4 — shui (art of placement)
8 Big name in diet shakes
16 Pat gently
19 "The Name of the Rose" novelist Umberto
20 Business bigwig, briefly
21 City ordinance
22 Freudian concern
23 Start of riddle #1
26 — -Pitch softball
27 "Slammin' Sammy"
28 — Speedwagon
29 Mob scene
30 "Let's go!"
31 End of riddle #1
38 Madrid's country, in Madrid
40 Paraphernalia
41 Faculty head
42 Lao-tzu's "way"
43 See 109-Down
46 Civic centers
50 IRS probe
53 Answer to riddle #1
57 Wait around
58 Bugling beasts
59 CIA worker
60 Prince Harry's mom
62 Baseball arbiter
63 Faucet
66 Start of riddle #2
71 Rio de —
75 — Jima
76 Levi of jeans
77 Riddle #2, part 2
82 Took a load off
83 Clairvoyance
84 — living (bring home the bacon)
85 Two-finger sign
87 Exile isle
91 Seoul soldiers
93 Riddle #2, part 3
99 "— the fool!" (Mr. T's line)
101 Moses of hoops
102 Perjurer
103 Jongg lead-in
104 Uncluttered
106 Gillette brand
108 Cast a new ballot
110 End of riddle #2
117 Kuwaiti VIP
118 Salary
119 U-turn from SSW
120 "Halt!"
123 QB Marino
124 Answer to riddle #2
130 Jazzman's job
131 Old fear of Communism
132 Kick — a notch
133 Where one lives: Abbr.
134 Ernie of golf
135 Beauty devotee
136 Barcelona bears
137 Toddler

DOWN
1 Church benches
2 Resound
3 Chinese entree
4 Not many
5 Prefix with skeleton
6 Surgeon beginner?
7 Musical staff symbol
8 Devious
9 London lavatory
10 Post-op stop
11 Computer program shortcut
12 Threshing tool
13 — the above
14 Like pretzels, usually
15 Major airline until 2001
16 Nobel-winning archbishop
17 Visibly happy
18 Godsends
24 Lutz perfomer Lipinski
25 Magician Henning
30 Santa —
32 "Picnic" playwright William
33 Sculling equipment
34 Imminent
35 Give a darn
36 Utah city
37 Grassy field
38 Feminizing suffix
39 Satirist Mort
44 They're high in Mensa
45 Insect in a cocoon
47 Nothing
48 Touched down
49 Clothes lines
51 Poetic feet
52 Categories
54 Fragrant compound
55 Objectivist Rand
56 Pouty states
61 Taj Mahal town
64 West Wing worker
65 King of Troy
67 Film overseer: Abbr.
68 20th-cen. global conflict
69 "Woo- —!"
70 Abhorred
71 — curl (Afro's looser cousin)
72 Fable writer
73 Serviette holders
74 "Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle —"
78 Tennis star Kournikova
79 Guinea pig's lack
80 Cato's eggs
81 Plummeted
86 Old Testament judge
88 Small, sourish pastry
89 Holy terror
90 Tennis legend
92 Pilot
94 Franklin stove fuel
95 Gung-ho on
96 Llama's land
97 Sheriff Wyatt
98 Domain
100 China's Sun — -sen
105 Long-tailed finch
107 — cost (free)
109 With 43-Across, hand-held grasping tool
110 Pie slice
111 Cybermissive
112 Lawn locales
113 Discharge
114 Bloodsucker
115 "That Night —" (1941 musical comedy)
116 Avian abodes
121 Margarine
122 "Hey, over here ..."
124 Singer's syllable
125 Novelist Rita — Brown
126 Etchings, paintings, etc.
127 "— -hawl" (Western whoop)
128 Status —
129 FedEx rival



answer on page F3

Milestones

JOSE-DE UNGRIA

Lawyer **Jose Manguera Jose**, eldest son of engineer **Silverio** and **Alma Jose**, married Dr. Maria **Corazon Abogado de Ungria**, only daughter of engineer **Remigio** and Dr. **Segundina de Ungria**, at the Sacred Heart Parish, Kamuning, QC. Fr. **Sonny Ramirez** officiated. Reception was held at the Hotel Rembrandt Grand Ballroom.

The bride's gown was made by **Jontie Martinez** of Galatea.

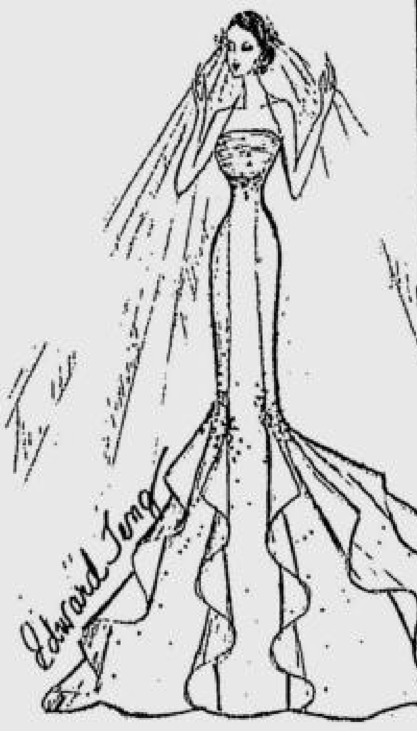
We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the INQUIRER, *P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.*

BUNAO-GARZA

Edsel Bandala Bunao, son of **Genaro** and **Obdulia Bunao** of Jagna, Bohol, married **Judy Roldan Garza**, daughter of **Rogelio** and **Maria Salvacion Garza** of Naga City, at the Chapel of Transfiguration in Caleruega. The groom's barong was by King Philip. The bridal gown, a white strapless gown designed in Zymberline, was created by **Priscilla** of Boston. Gowns of the entourage were made by **Mila de Leon**.

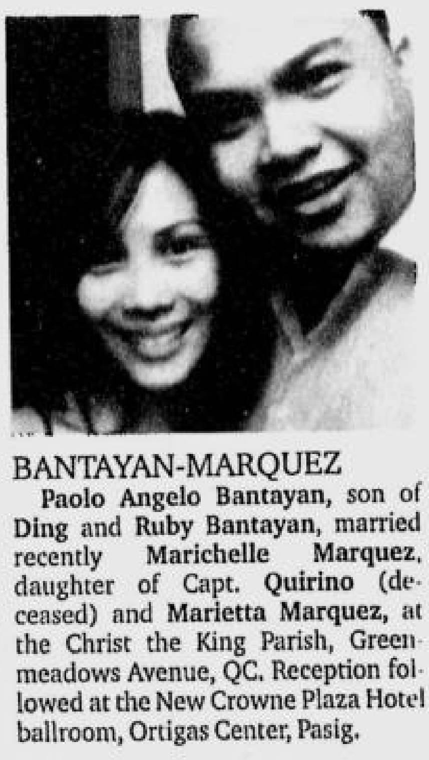
ZABALLA- ORTIZ

Donna F. Ortiz, daughter of **Antonio Y. Ortiz** and **Noemi Francisco**, wed recently **Bing M. Zaballa**, son of **Roberto B. Zaballa** and **Bella Marcelo**, at the Our Lady of Consolation Parish in Mira Nila Homes, Quezon City. Fr. **Carlo Magno Marcelo** officiated. Reception followed at the Big Tent in Quezon City.



GALANG-REYES

Christian S. Galang, son of engineer **Leoncio de Jesus Galang** and **Natividad Diwa Santos**, will marry **Lena Reyes**, daughter of the late engineer **Francisco Tungol Reyes** and lawyer **Clarencia Segovia Reyes**, on Dec. 23 at the Nuestra Señora de Gracia in Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City. Reception will follow at the Amorsolo Grand Ballroom, Holiday Inn Galleria, Ortigas Avenue, Quezon City. **Edward Teng** designed the bridal gown.



BANTAYAN-MARQUEZ

Paolo Angelo Bantayan, son of **Ding** and **Ruby Bantayan**, married recently **Marichelle Marquez**, daughter of Capt. **Quirino** (deceased) and **Marietta Marquez**, at the Christ the King Parish, Greenmeadows Avenue, QC. Reception followed at the New Crowne Plaza Hotel ballroom, Ortigas Center, Pasig.

ROBERT and Eliza with principal sponsors (from left): Carmelita de Leon-Liwanag, Dr. Ma. Salvacion Navarro, Elseen Quinzon, Marie Mamawal, Fe Zamora, Maria Ressa, Che Che Lazaro, Howie Severino, Johnny Litton, lawyer Andres Santos, Capt. (ret.) Amado Soliman Jr., Maj. Gen. Romeo Tolentino, Brig. Gen. Horacio Tolentino, Brig. Gen. Reu Lucio Samaco and Lt. Col. Restituto Padilla Jr.

On wings of love

From page E1

PARENTS Edwin and Evelyn Zamora and Samuel and Teresita Solis flank the newlyweds.

Capt. Arvin Ricabierta was best man while Ria Mignon Ilocso-Orteza was matron of honor. The lovely bridesmaids included Emily Zamora, Josette Solis and Janice Joy Solis. Roderick Solis, Erwin Zamora and Edwin Zamora II were groomsmen.

Secondary sponsors were Capt. Oliver Jann Hidalgo and Lolita Lachica, Capt. Arnold Makalintal and Rachelle Santos, and Amador Aquilizan and Joanna Grace Aldea. Florencio Jolo Paquiz and Florencio Rameses Paquiz were ring and coin bearers, respectively, while Francesa Elero and Zia Nicole Camu were flower girls.

Ex-Probe Team journalist Bernadette Sembrano, who is now with ABS-CBN, was lector. Nina Balagot did the First Reading and Responsorial Psalm, JM Cobarrubias did the Second Reading and Capt. Edwin Vargas Jr. led the Prayers of the Faithful.

Robert's comrades from the 15th Strike Wing came in full force. One Huey helicopter even landed on the helipad fronting the Philippine Army Officers' Clubhouse, where the sunset reception was held.

Oh yes, the newlyweds had their wedding photo taken on the Vietnam-vintage Huey helicopter, where their unique love story began.

PRETTY girls galore

FAMILIAR faces. Lazaro, Karen Davila, Howie Severino and Maria Ressa

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ANTIPOLO

Antipolo hotel offers wedding package

PERCHED ON A HILL AND OVERLOOKING the metropolis, Seven Suites Hotel Observatory in Antipolo hosts wedding receptions.

The Seven Suites multipurpose hall can accommodate up to 200 people. It is beside the Hollywood Steakhouse, which serves buffet meals.

Seven Suites offers four wedding packages. The Traditional package offers a bottle of red wine for the bridal toast, a floral centerpiece for the couple's table, flowers for the presidential table, a buffet setup, a flower arrangement per table, and complimentary use of audio facilities.

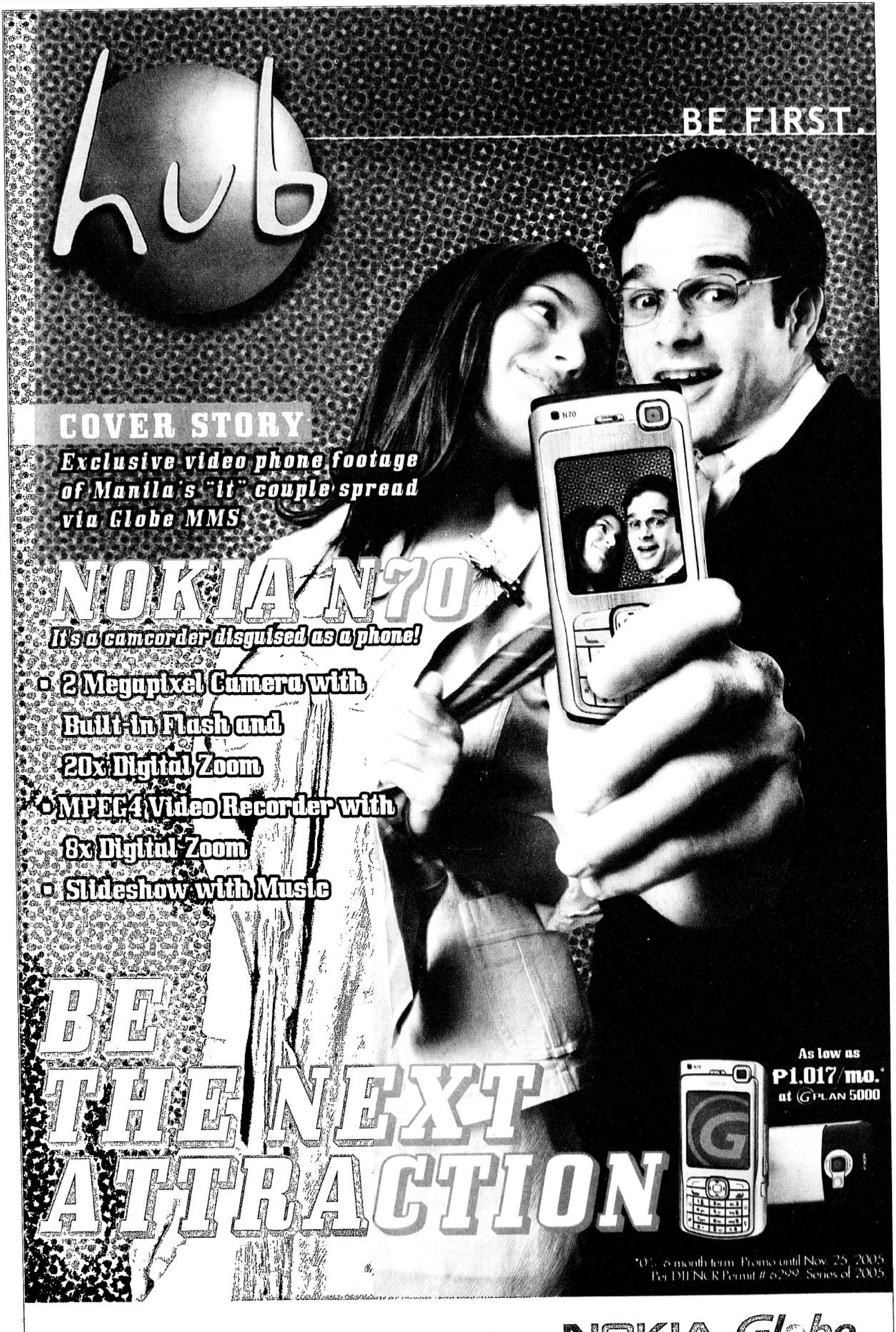
The Sophisticated package offers all the features of the traditional package plus a pair of doves (or 25 butterflies) in a decorative cage as well as a two-layered wedding cake.

The Elegance and Legendary packages offer couples an overnight stay at the bridal suites where they will be welcomed with a fruit basket and a complimentary breakfast in the morning.

Couples may hold their wedding reception either in the garden or the terrace at the top of the hotel.

All wedding packages come with a free stargazing session with the in-house astronomer.

Seven Suites Hotel Observatory is at Hollywood Hills Subdivision, Sumulong Highway, Antipolo City. Call 6820330 and 6822076, or e-mail seven-suites@cravingsgroup.com. Call the Manila sales office at 9268985.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ANNA Periquet's luxe new sanctuary /F2

Dream pieces for dream spaces at furniture fair

INTERIOR DESIGNER TESSA PRIETO-Valdes enjoys—no, revels in—her peculiar fashion sense. She admits her "outlandish" clothing preference extends to her interior decoration sense.

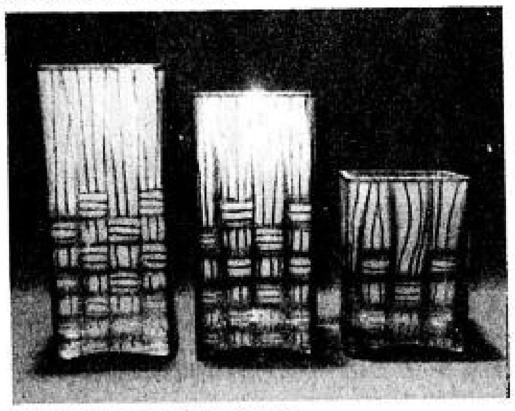
As an interior designer, she uses a liberal amount of angles, prefers asymmetrical arrangements to create excitement, and shuns basic living-room sets. Still, she wants people to understand that she's not in the habit of imposing her style on others, her clients particularly.

Valdes will be the guest interior designer at the 29th Philippine Furniture Festival and the 2nd Home Accents Show on Nov. 11-20 at the SM Megatrade Hall.

Organized by the Chamber of Furniture Industries of the Philippines (CFIP), the show will showcase the best furniture and furnishings available for the local market.

This edition's theme will be "Living the Dream"—living spaces that induce happiness, contentment and harmony for the family.

Valdes will design dream spaces in two settings—a dream living and bedroom setting at the entrance of Hall 2, as well as a dream dining and outdoor setting at the Hall 3 entrance, both using furniture and furnishings displayed at the festival.



RAM Glass candleholders

TESSA Prieto-Valdes will be the guest interior designer at the 29th Philippine Furniture Festival.

Valdes, a frequent visitor of the bi-annual furniture show, said it is a one-stop shop for home accessories, fabrics, pillows, curtains. One of the objectives of the show, she added, is to help the local furniture industry.

Valdes said interior design and furniture design cannot be separated because a designer cannot do one without the other, aside from the fact that much of the expenses in an interior design job go to furniture.

Therefore, it makes sense to approach furniture purchases from a long-term investment strategy.

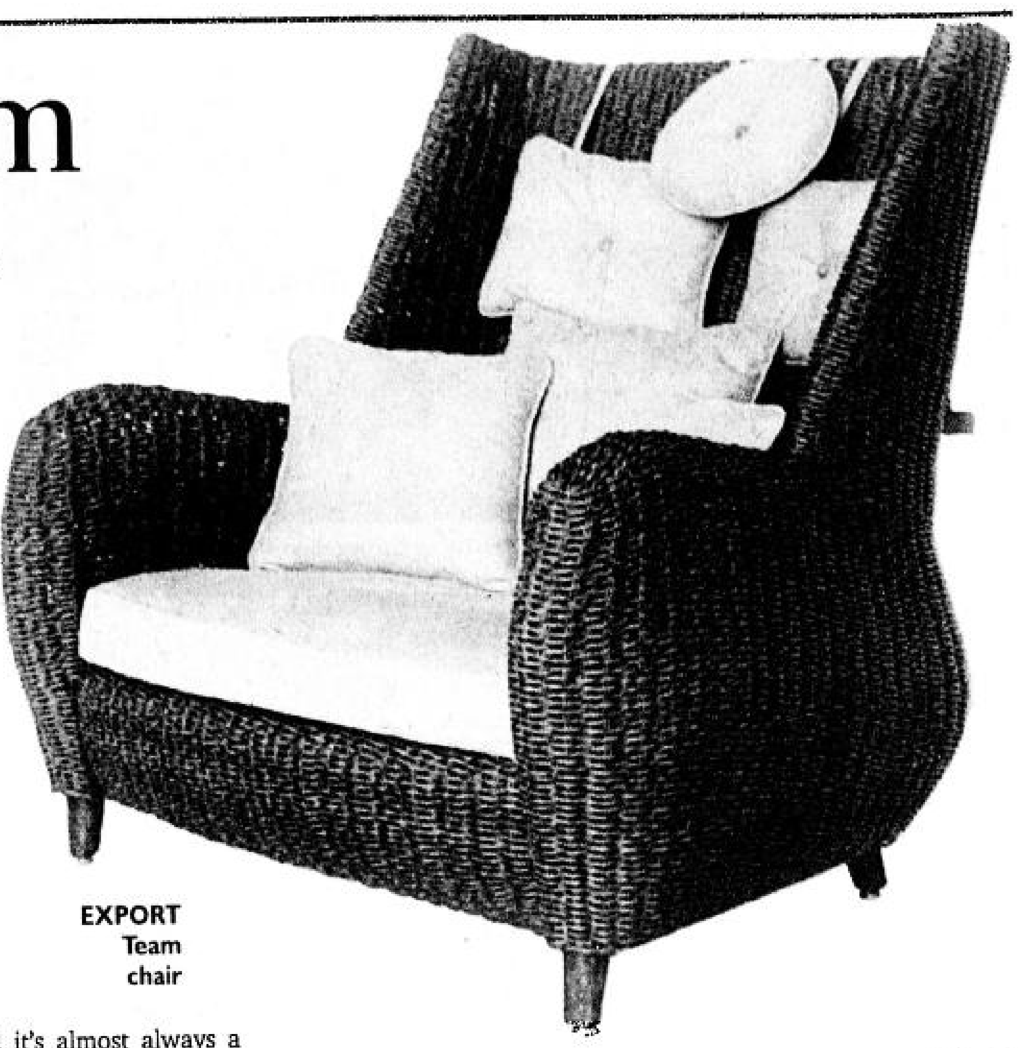
And what about current trends or colors coming up in home furnishing? Valdes has this to say: "For furniture, I don't recommend following trends. Trends come and go but furniture cannot come and go unless you're really rich."

With furniture, she said, the first thing to consider is personal taste, and one should choose the furniture with which she feels comfortable with. And it's almost always a perfect combination of form and function, proportion and color scheme.

"I don't like one particular style. It's like my clothing. It's like a costume. There is a lot of variety. I get inspiration from all these people." Among Valdes' previous projects were the Philippine Daily Inquirer office—the design of which had been considered radical in the early 1990s—as well as the American Express office. Most of her projects are commercial, although she also designs residential interiors.

Her job as an interior designer, she added, is never boring. "I love it because it's such an interactive type of work. It's not stagnant. You keep evolving. It keeps you abreast with what's new and with what's coming up."

She also gets to travel a lot because of her job. "Besides, what could be more exciting than being able to spend other people's money [during the design process]?"



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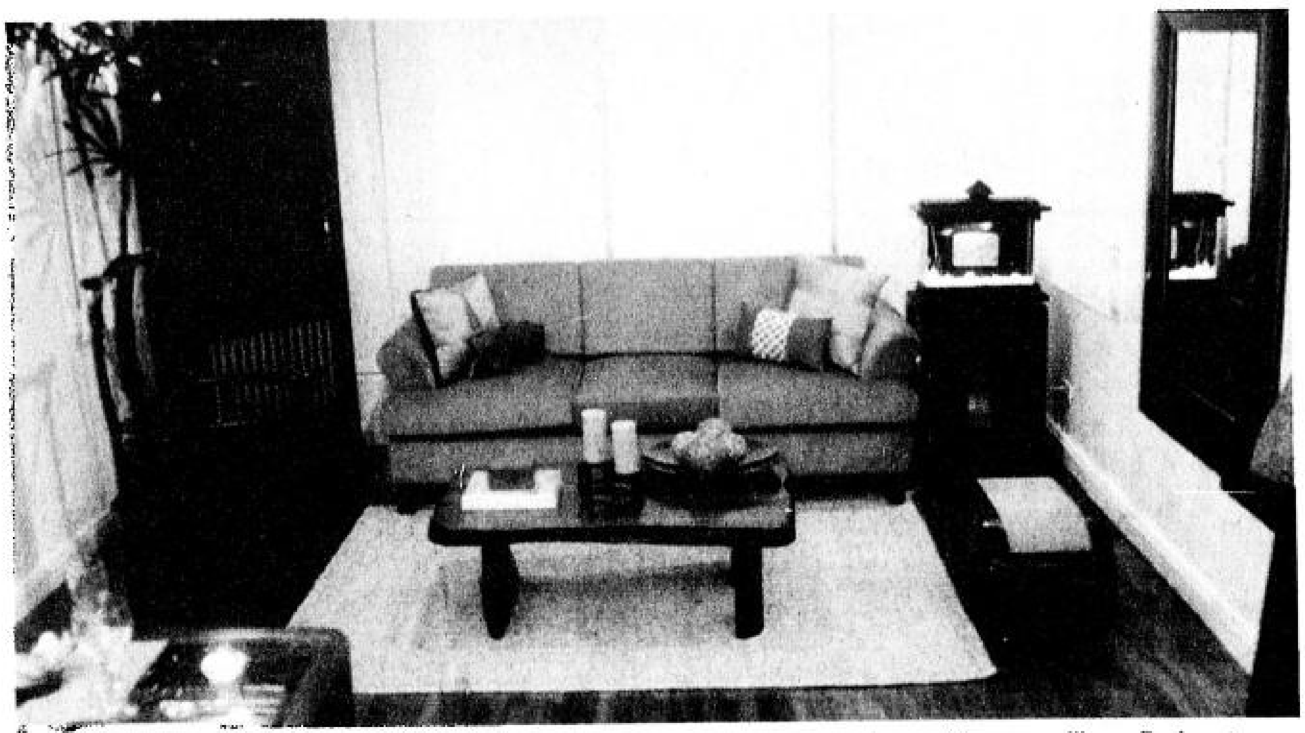
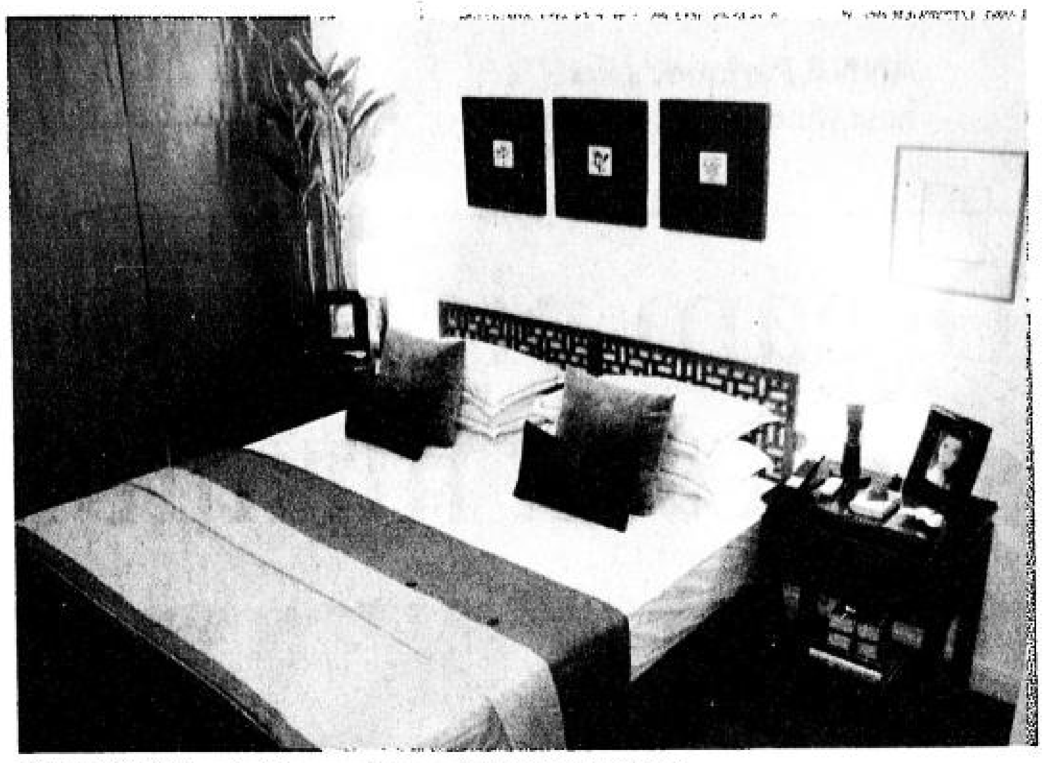


AN AQUARIUM in the living room is supposed to bring the money in. No two throw pillows are alike as Periquet doesn't go for the *terno* look.



HEADBOARD is actually a panel screen Periquet redesigned.

Pan-Asian sanctuary

Anna Marie Periquet's newly refurbished condo unit is a testament to her love for exquisite home furnishings

SHE PARLAYED her love for furniture and accent pieces by opening Anna Marie Home Collection. Most of the items featured in her condo unit are available in her Makati store.

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

ANNA MARIE PERIQUET FINISHED broadcast journalism with honors at the University of the Philippines, but for some reason she has found her true calling as an interior designer.

This gift is evident in her newly refurbished condo unit, a two-bedroom eclectic affair, in the heart of Makati's Central Business District.

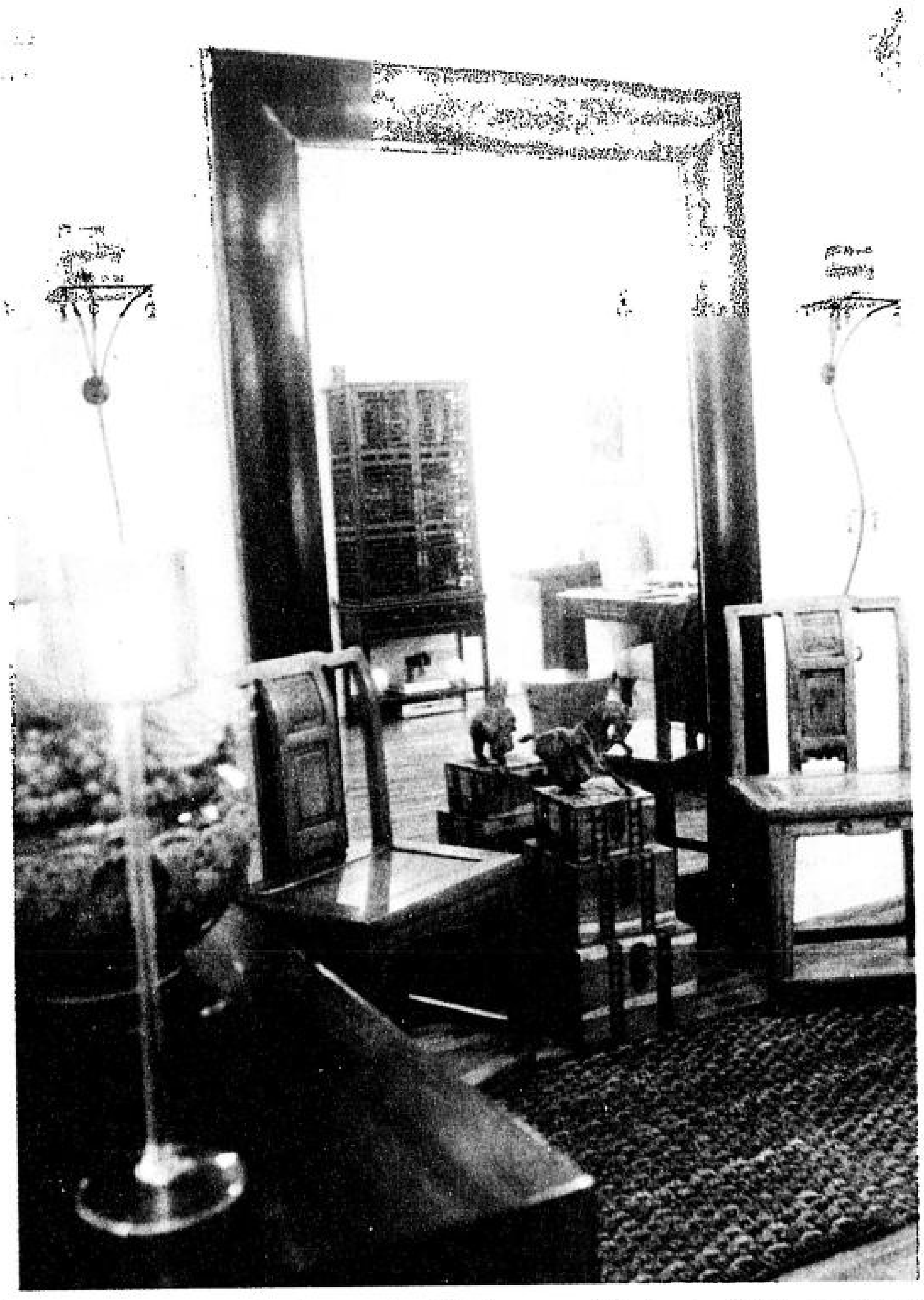
Although Periquet has yet to charge friends and loved ones who often seek her advice, she has parlayed her love for exquisite furniture pieces by opening Anna Marie Home Collection (8950406) two years ago.

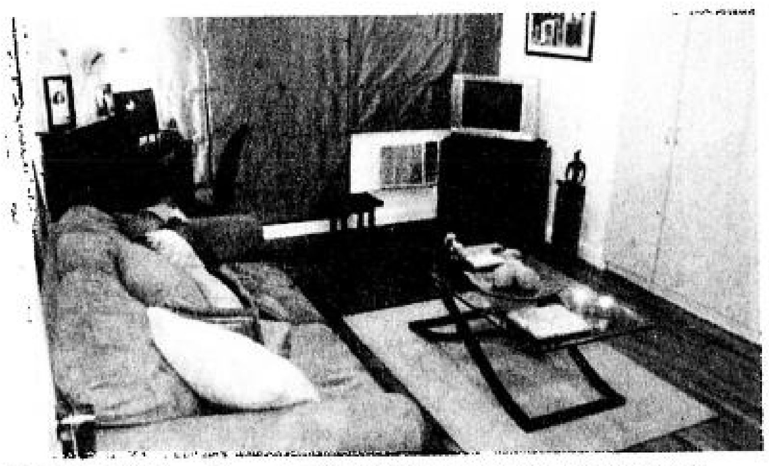
Located on Jupiter corner Planet Streets in Makati, the home store specializes in original antiques and reproductions from China. It also carries accessories and accent pieces of more recent vintage from such disparate countries as Vietnam, Indonesia, Australia, India, Morocco and the Philippines.

Periquet, the fifth and youngest daughter of the late Aurelio Periquet Jr. and Mary Anne Kessel, used to buy all sorts of stuff from the world over. Since her place could only accommodate so much, she ended up hosting white elephant parties twice a year just to rid her house of excess pieces. She eventually turned her buying sprees into a business.

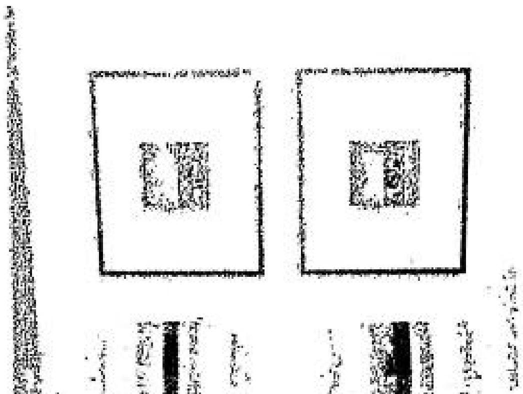
Eclectic taste

When it came to her condo unit, she didn't consider hiring an interior designer to help her redecorate the place. Even before she rolled up her sleeves and buckled down to work, Periquet had decided to adopt a pan-Asian look, with paintings of Filipino artists and a sprinkling of accent pieces from the West thrown in.

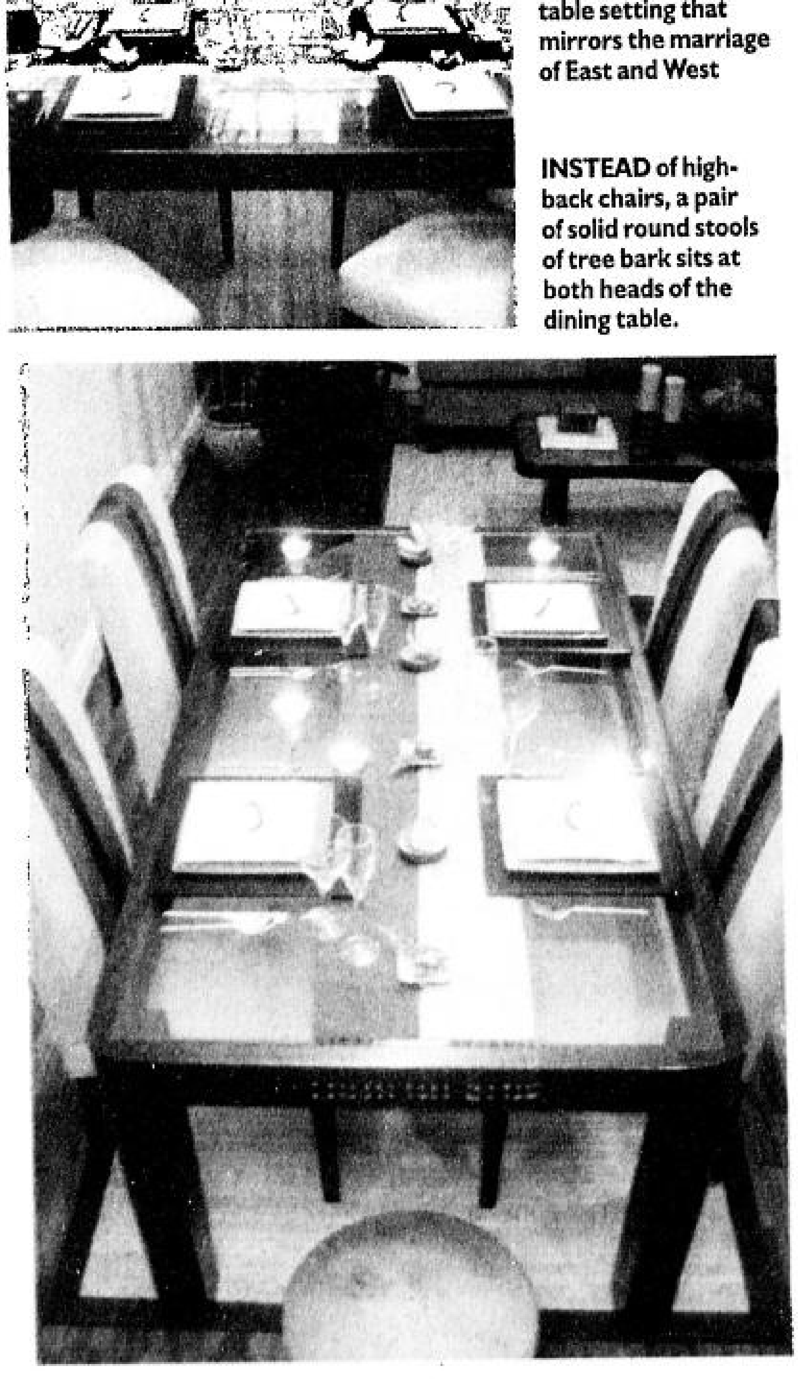




PERIQUET'S favorite part of the house happens to be the den. It comes with a sofa bed and an entertainment system for small parties.



ECLECTIC opulence as reflected in the mix of old and new pieces and (at left) table setting that mirrors the marriage of East and West



INSTEAD of high-back chairs, a pair of solid round stools of tree bark sits at both heads of the dining table.

"I knew what I wanted so I didn't see the point of hiring somebody else," she says matter-of-factly. "It would have been a different story, however, if I had a partner. Then I would have to learn to meet [his demands] halfway."

Periquet's taste may be eclectic, but when it comes to her home, the little lady's furniture and accent pieces are devoid of carvings and printed fabrics. Nor is she fond of matching pieces and colors that underscore symmetry. The sofa bed in her den, for instance, is spruced up with numerous throw pillows in different sizes and wrapped in various hues and textures.

Even her choice of colors, primarily neutral and earth tones such as beige, bone and brown, is far from feminine. She doesn't mind if her preferences appear a bit masculine. If anything, says Periquet, they're a reflection of how organized and up-front she is as a person.

"I don't go for the *terno* look perhaps because I myself am a mixture of various nationalities," she adds.

Soft side

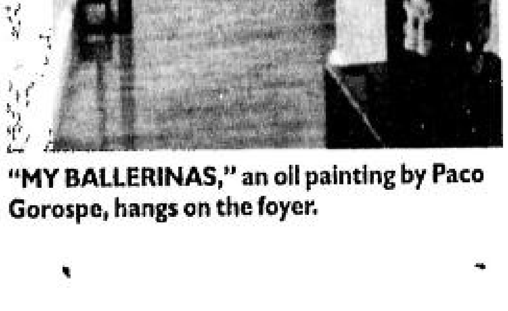
Periquet's father was of Filipino and Spanish ancestries, while her mother was of German descent. But there's definitely a soft side to this achiever, who divides her time between the demands of business and numerous socio-civic concerns both here and abroad, in the way she values heirlooms handed down by her late parents.

There's also, well, a superstitious side to her, as Periquet subscribes to feng shui. A pair of indoor water features, supposedly money elements in the seemingly esoteric world of geomancy, gives off a soothing rustle in one corner of the living room and the den.

Such Oriental-inspired water features, which are made of various materials and come in different sizes and configurations, are also sold at Anna Marie Home Collection.

When their parents left them a considerable number of furniture pieces and artworks, the sisters decided to divide them among themselves by drawing lots. Periquet was beside herself with joy when she ended up with a Paco Gorospe oil, which has now found its way into the foyer.

TWIN-CUBE drawer cabinet Periquet designed and was executed by her Chinese principal



"MY BALLERINAS," an oil painting by Paco Gorospe, hangs on the foyer.

CONSOLE table from Baguio

"It means a lot to us since my dad had it commissioned," she says. "The painting features five ballet dancers, which supposedly represent the five of us. My sisters danced ballet when we were little."

Common sense

Apart from her rich sense of aesthetics, Periquet also possesses a great deal of common sense. In lieu of high-back chairs, for instance, she chose a pair of solid round stools made from the barks of trees from Ilocos Norte for both heads of the dining table. Not only do they break the monotony, the pieces also free the view from additional obstructions.

"I would love to have a garden," she says, "but it's impossible to have one right now given the fact that I live in a condominium. Besides, I have a crazy schedule."

It may seem odd, but Periquet finds more solace in the den than in her bedroom. The area is also an ideal venue for hosting parties, as it comes with its own state-of-the-art entertainment and computer systems.

PAN-ASIAN/ F4

Thesaurus of Pinoy environmental terms

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

ENVIRONMENTALISTS IN THE PHILIPPINES hail the publication of a thesaurus that provides essential ecological information in one handy volume.

This is a first in the country, a valuable addition to the growing number of local publications that aim to develop people's awareness of "nature" subjects and issues.

The book is "Thesaurus on Philippine Environment," compiled by Romeo A. Sebastian and published by Bookmark. Its 163 pages are rich with information on significant ecological subjects presented in such a way that one subject leads to others related to it, in conventional thesaurus method.

It can even be said that this thesaurus provides cohesiveness to all the other environmental literature available locally as it serves as general reference and guide.

Preferred terms

The book lists 1,000 preferred terms collated from indexed articles from periodicals, books and dictionaries. Beginning with *acid* and ending with *zooplankton*, it reads like an outline, which, in a way, it is, except that it is more informational.

Each main keyword or phrase has seven headings: Scope Note (SN) is a brief explanation of the main word, or definition of an acronym; Used For (UF) is the synonym of a term not used as keyword; Broader Term (BT) represents a concept of wider connotation; Narrower Term (NT) pertains to a concept with a specific connotation; Related Term (RT) means a word or words related or allied with the keyword. Two other headings—Use and See Also (SA) are included but are not used much.

The alphabetical listing of key words/phrases makes it easy for the researcher/reader. He/she has only to look at Broader, Narrower and Related Terms for further definitions and explanations.

Take "global warming," for example. It is defined (SN) as the "increase in the earth's surface temperature due to the increase in the amount of greenhouse gases present in the atmosphere." Listed under Related Term are climate change and greenhouse effect, both of which may be looked up in the thesaurus for added information on global warming.

The mass of information for each keyword, says the author, requires an easy-to-use and practical device that will facilitate information storage and retrieval. And Sebastian seems to have hit the nail on the head with his thesaurus.

Not all seven headings are used for each keyword. Usually, only three or four are needed—SN, BT, NT and RT. Some kind of a cross index is used when an acronym, among others, is defined. An example is "National Integrated Protected Areas Act," which has its Scope Note, Broader Term and Related Term. It also appears under "Nipas Act" which, after all, is how it is often referred to.

To students and researchers coping with a variety of ecological terms and acronyms, this publication is a boon.

Librarian

About the author: When Romeo A. Sebastian was pursuing his graduate studies in Library Science at the University of the Philippines, he chose for his thesis a thesaurus on Philippine literature, a type of word compilation he found to be better known abroad than in this country. The thesaurus he chose provided a hierarchical relationship of terms, a sort of "live-in" system that easily led the researcher from one topic to another.

He has held a librarian's post for the past 14 years, he says. Currently, he is with Miriam's Institute of Environmental Studies. Prior to that, he worked at the St. Luke's Hospital, the Manila Observatory and UP.

This collection of environmental terms is the fourth thesaurus he has done. After his thesis on Philippine literature, he did a thesaurus on rice and *abaca* (in collaboration with other graduate students).

He and wife Emilyn Buenaluz, a law student, have four children.

"Thesaurus on Philippine Environment" is available at Bookmark and its outlets.

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com

> The new publication serves as general reference and guide on significant ecological subjects

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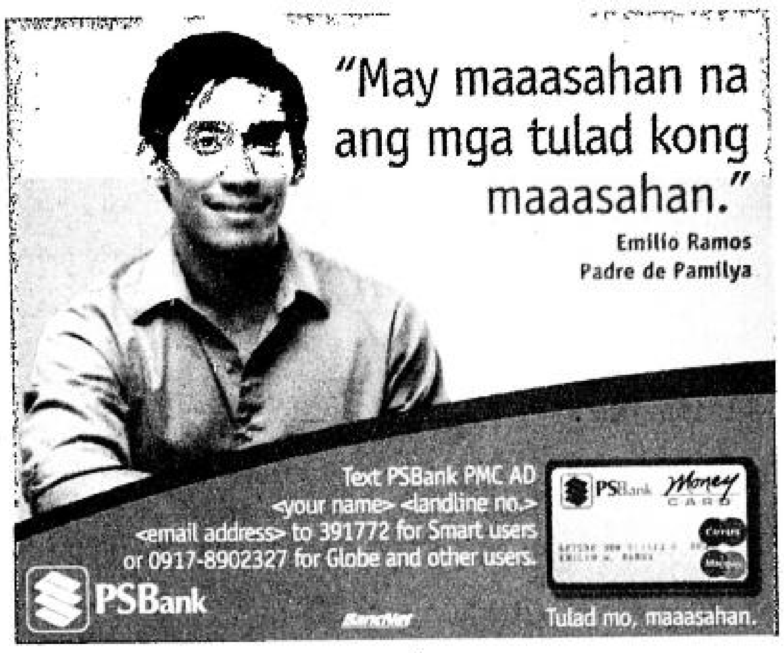

"May maaasahan na ang mga tulad kong maaasahan."
Emilio Ramos
Padre de Pamilya

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Some say butter is better. Better than margarine. Better than sugary jams. Better than your usual bread buddy. But which butter is better than your usual butter? Before answering that, consider that butter is primarily made of milk, and milk comes from cows. So you have to make sure which cows your butter comes from. Ask yourself too, are the cows well-fed, living in wide, healthy grasslands where the air is fresh?

Most butter products come from Europe, but the best-tasting ones come from New Zealand. Being one of the least polluted countries, the land of the Kiwis is where cows roam freely and graze on fresh grass. And the most popular and well-loved New Zealand butter is ANCHOR Butter. We all grew up loving that creamy goodness that stays in your mouth. And that same creamy goodness is now made even better with ANCHOR Spreadable. It's been softened for better spreadability so you can spread it on your bread, even if it's straight from the ref. So if you get a craving any time of the day, you can just get your ANCHOR Spreadable from the refrigerator and spread it on your bread, muffins, puto, suman, corn, pancakes, rolls, or baguette, etc. It spreads so easily you don't have to worry about breaking your bread. It evenly spreads too so you don't bite into clumps of butter on your toast.

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When you just can't wait.

Pan-Asian sanctuary

From page F2

Not only does it double as her work area at home, the den also functions as a sanctuary of sorts, as it hosts a gallery of old family photos that were enlarged and rendered in vintage sepia.

"Whenever I feel a bit down," she says, "I just lie on the sofa bed and stare at the photos. They never fail to lift up my spirits."

Before she knows it, Periquet is fast asleep and mired in pleasant dreams. Even the most potent sleeping pills are no match to happy memories and the soothing sound of flowing water.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

Stylistics
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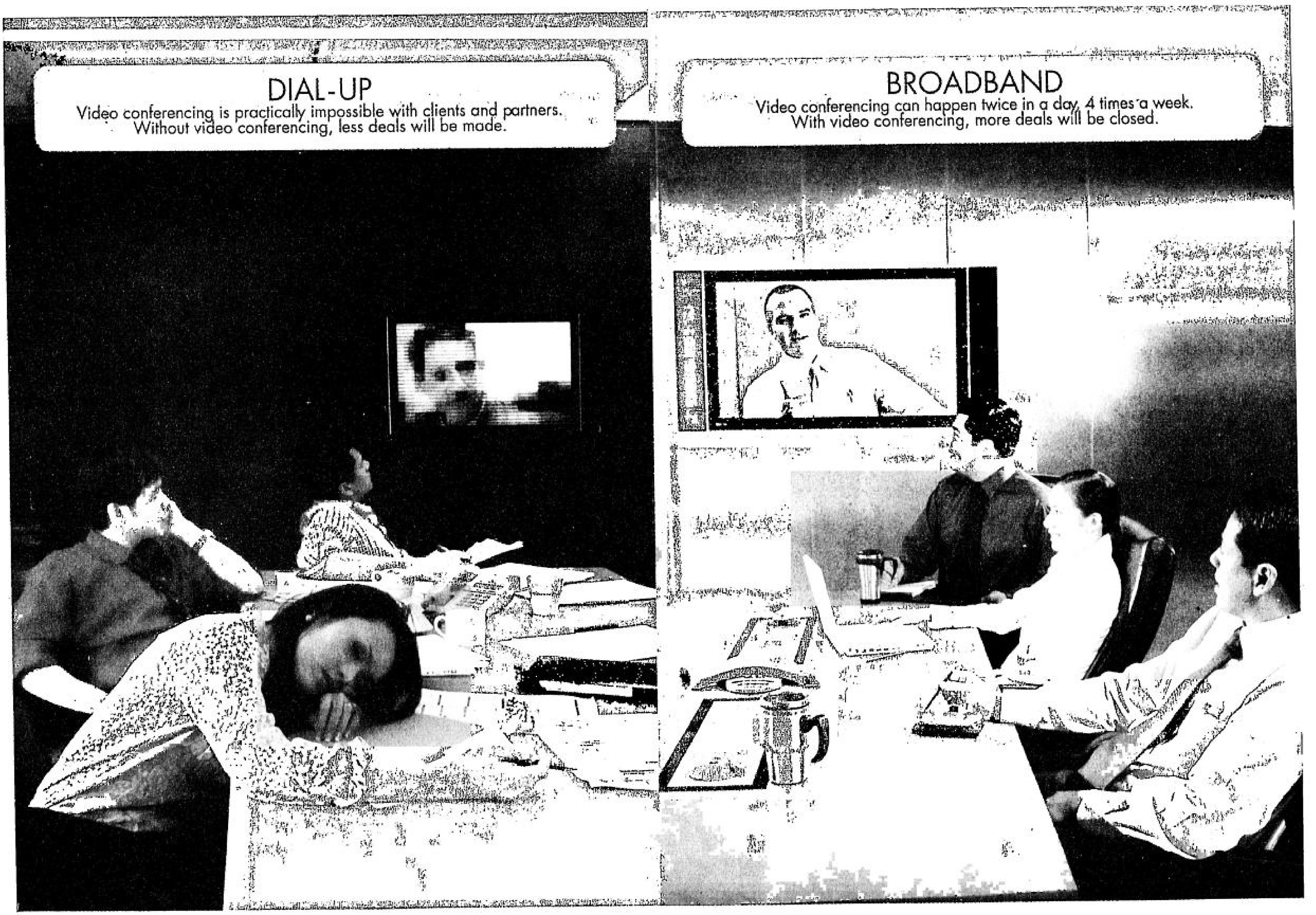

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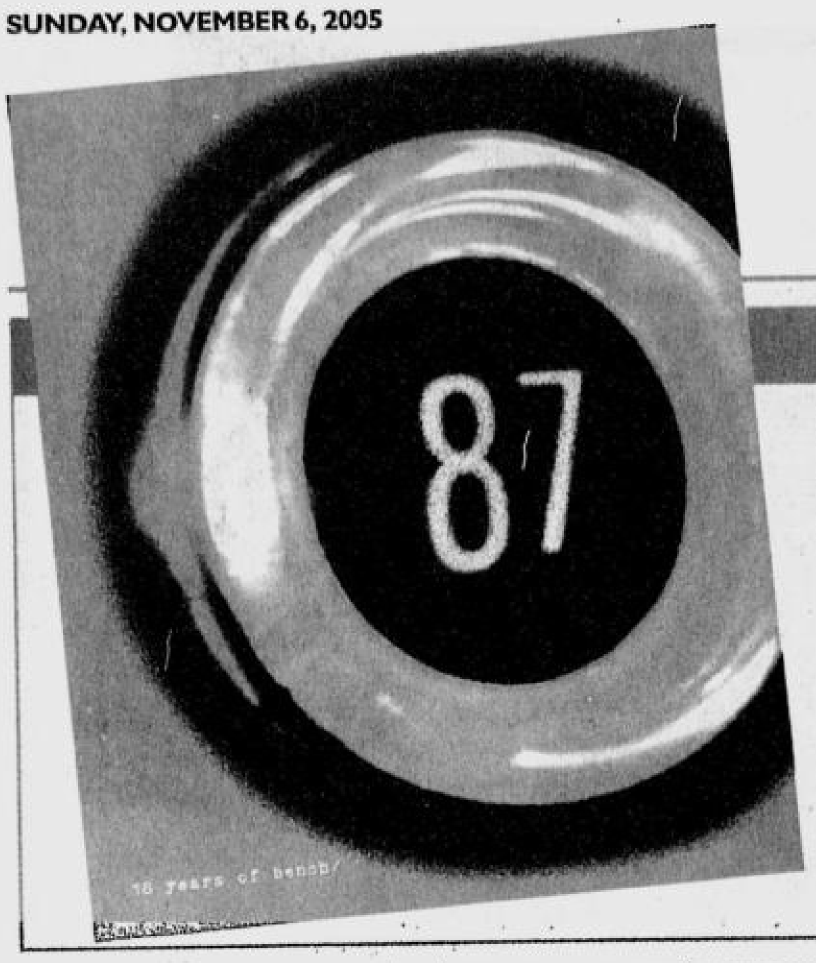


Editor's rave Board

Benchmarking for greatness

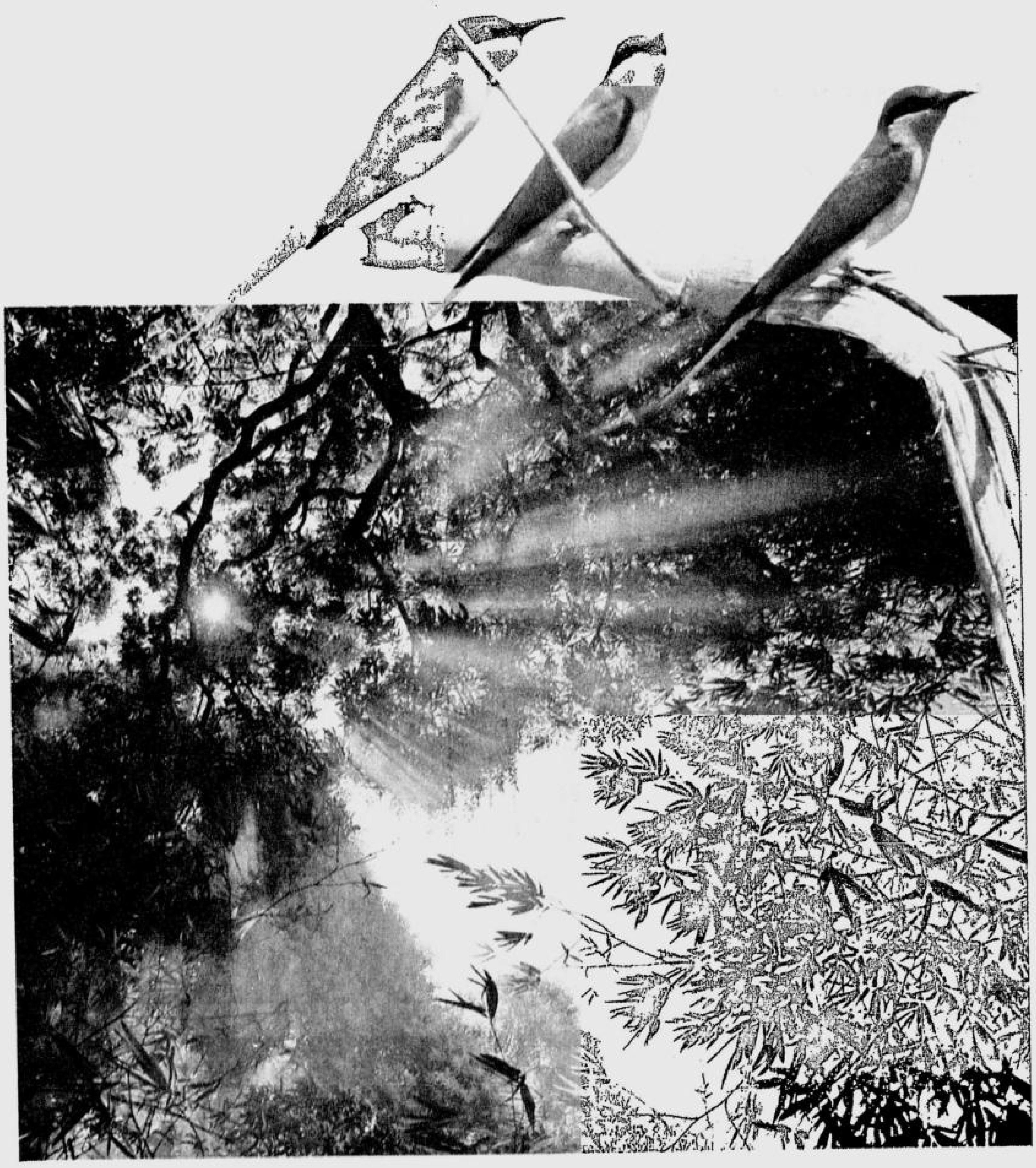
The lifestyle store marks its 18th year with a magazine that's an irresistible read

THE LITTLE SHOP THAT could, a.k.a Bench, has just turned 18 and its coming-out party takes the guise of a delectable magazine. The auspicious red cover says "18 years of Bench." Simple. But I flip it open and I discover a graphically ravishing read.

Hot off the Hong Kong press, the edgy anniversary souvenir has collectible photos for

BENCHMARKING/ G2

You'll never know what to expect once you enter the forest trail. Crackling leaves underfoot and birds in glorious chorus overhead — it is just enchanting.



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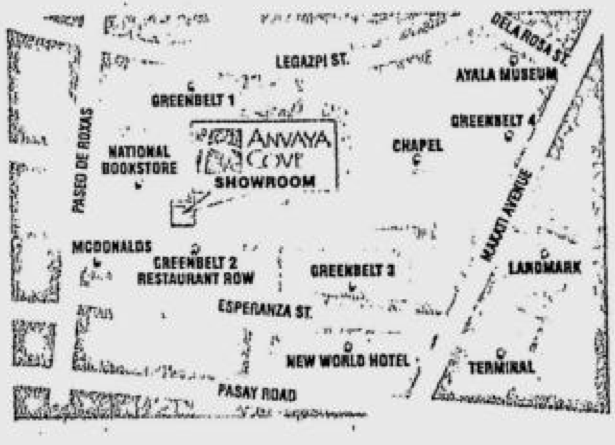

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Benchmarking

On Richard: Duo-col
red cap by Bench.
Loca
s Center, Pasig Cit

SCENES from an anniversary. Photos from "18 years of bench/," the souvenir magazine commemorating the birth of Bench back in 1987. "Here we still are... with a growth rate that took all of us by surprise," says Ben Chan, the creative and marketing mind behind Bench who changed the way Filipinos—young and old and across all markets—shop and dress.

From page G1

fans of Bench celebrity endorsers Jerry Yan, KC Concepcion, Kris Aquino, Jasmine Trias, Lucy Torres-Gomez, John Hall, Wendell Ramos, the twins Richard and Raymond Gutierrez, among other luminaries. The fashion pages—stupendously styled, photographed and laid out—show Alessandra da Rossi and Iya Villania, Diether Ocampo and Kristine Hermosa, Jay-R and Melissa, Rica Peralejo, Shaina Magdayao, Christian Bautista, John Pratts and Bubbles Paraiso, Francine Prieto and Rob Duat, and Andrew Wolff, ahh Andrew.

Not surprisingly, there are shots of the gorgeous Gomezes—little Juliana, mom Lucy and dad Richard, the very same one who rowed into the sunset and iconhood in Bench's earliest and much-acclaimed TV ad.

Aquino names the "18 people who have made a major impact" on her life. Not oddly enough, the man she has announced she's going to marry is not among them. Trias talks about the 18 things she has discovered about the country of her roots. Concepcion lists the Nancy Drew mystery series among her 18 favorite books—sans apologies.

"I wish that Bench had its sexy underwear line when I was 18," writes Robina Gokongwei-Pe on the 18th page. I do, too. And I so desperately wish their lingerie line would fit not just nubile nymphs but women, too. I mean women of a certain age (bulge?).

The magazine's editorial team is led by Liza Ilarde who, as editor, pulled together the acts and talents of lensmen Raymund Isaac, Ronnie Salvacion and Steve Tirona; layout designer Eric Sanchez; stylists Kiko Escora, Luis Espiritu, Chechel Joson, Noel Manapat and Gerry Santos; hair and makeup artists Krist Bansuelo, Cat Cantada, Jingky Ilusorio and Juan Sarte III.

Proudly Pinoy

"Who would have thought that the little store on the mezzanine floor of SM Makati that sold T-shirts and other sporty clothes would last long?" writes Ben Chan in the foreword page. He is the bashful founder of the award-winning lifestyle store that bears not only his name (minus, quite obviously, the last two letters) but also his aura—bright, young, tasteful and proudly Pinoy.

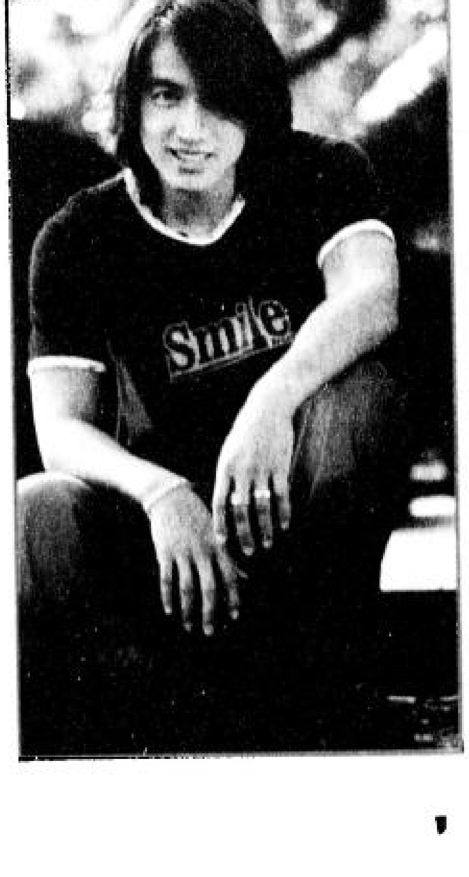
"I clearly remember my excitement and disbelief when I first saw people lining up to buy our products!" adds Chan, who relived the experience when he recently opened a Bench store in Daly City, California, his first in the United States. Filipinos and Americans alike lapped up Bench products that now include hand sanitizers, hair care and styling products, a fragrance line, a watch collection, innerwear, snacks and a much-coveted denim jeans collection.

In 1987, all Bench was selling were all-natural, 20-count cotton tees, recalls Chan. Back then, Bench tees were free-sized. Now they come in six sizes. And while the 100 percent cotton tees are still available, some are now made of cotton derivatives such as pique and heavy jersey.

Bench may have started in one corner of a department store, but its success has spun off other robust retail ventures: the boutiques HerBench, Bench Body, Human and Kashieca, as well as the beauty and grooming stops PCX and Fix salons. If you count in Dimensione, a home furnishing store Chan opened pre-Bench, his family-run Suyen Corp. can single-handedly fill a mini mall today.

Besides Pe's humorous take on what it was like to be 18, there are also musings by Butch Dalisay, Celine Lopez and Gino dela Paz . But the the most quotable quote in the book is from Makati Rep. Teddy Boy Locsin, erstwhile Bench billboard star himself, when he says to Ben Chan: "...thanks for starting Bench, thanks more for hanging in there, only getting better with the years, keeping faith with our country, and keeping our young men and women looking their best."

Run to the nearest Bench store for a copy of this hot little number. Every purchase worth P1,000 entitles a shopper to one souvenir, but there's a limit of two copies per transaction. *Chelo B. Formoso*



(STANDING) Parker Encisa; Aniceto Sobrepeña, Metrobank EVP and executive director; Antonio Abacan, Metrobank president and vice chair of Metrobank Foundation; Placido L. Mapa Jr., Metrobank Foundation president; Dr. George S. K. Ty, Metrobank and Metrobank Foundation chair; lawyer Charito Cruz, president of Cabinet Spouses Foundation; Italian Ambassador Rubens Fedele and Marnie Corpus; Joel John L. Valenzuela, Randie M. Gutierrez, Noel K. Tan, Marybeth Tabaquinting-Ting, Jan Leeroy C. New and Duddley Diaz RODEL ROTONI

Colorful Mexican treat for culturati

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

ARCHITECT Nina Torralba, CCP president Nes Jardin and Dr. Jaime Laya BETOY JOHNSON

AYALA Museum director Nina Baker, Mexican Ambassador Erendira Paz Campos, Guadalupe Monasterio BETOY JOHNSON

WE TEND TO FORGET THAT for 200 years, there was continuous commerce between the Philippines and Mexico through the galleon trade.

Manila was the entrepot for goods from all over Southeast Asia that eventually found their way to Europe via Acapulco.

At the Ayala Museum exhibit of "Trajes Tipicos del Istmo de Tehuantepec," we were again reminded of the cross-culturization that occurred as a result of this exchange and the influence of the "manton de Manila" on Mexican costumes.

Mexican Ambassador **Erendira Paz Campos** cajoled her good friend, Sra. **Guadalupe Padilla de Ortiz Monasterio**, into lending her stupendous collection of finely embroidered Mexican costumes to the exhibit, artistically presented by Ayala Museum director **Nina Baker** to the delight of the culturatti.

Expanded

It's that time of year again and Metrobank Foundation, with the beaming energetic director, **Aniceto (a.k.a. Chito) Sobrepeña**, handed out awards for its art and design national competition.

On its 21st year, the foundation decided to expand the field and include sculptors, architects and interior designers. In partnership with the United Architect of the Philippines and the Philippine Institute for Interior Designers, the competition particularly aimed to promote the fusion of function and form.

There were a lot of happy faces that evening at the Le Pavilion of Metrobank, including **Silvana Diaz**, whose Galleria Duemila Inc. exhibited the works of **Duddley Diaz**, one of the winners in sculpture.

Everyone's favorite though was the house in Cebu designed by architect **Noel K. Tan**. Standing on 170 sq m of property, it is the architect's response to a limited area, a sloped rear, and our tropical climate—a fusion of culture and responsiveness to environmental and climactic conditions.

METROBANK chair Dr. George S. K. Ty and Italian Ambassador Rubens Fedele BETOY JOHNSON

To Metrobank Foundation and all the winners, which included **Parker E. Encisa, Marnie Corpus, Randie M. Gutierrez, Marybeth Tabaquinting-Ting, Jan Leeroy C. New**, and special citation **Joel John L. Valenzuella**, congratulations!

Immortalized

The general comment at the elegant launch of **Tina Torralba's** "Philippine Heritage Architecture" at the Cultural Center of the Philippines was that, at least, if these ancestral homes and centuries-old buildings fell victim to the wrecker's ball, they had been immortalized in the pages of Tina's book.

Chita Gatbonton pointed out that quite a number still remained even if they're outside Manila. But please, please can those honorable, duly elected leaders of this society take a breather from their squabbling to enact a law to preserve those few remaining ones?

Stirring the pangs of nostalgia, Tina's off to New York to attend another launching among Filipinos in the East Coast.

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1:00 - 3:00 PM	Alabang Racquet Club vs The Zone	Valle Verde Country Club vs Centro Atletico
3:00 - 5:00 PM	Peregrine Manila vs Portside Badminton Plaza	Smash Ville Fitness Center vs Alabang Country Club
5:00 - 7:00 PM	Myan's Badminton vs Portside Badminton Plaza	Family Badminton Center vs Alabang Country Club
7:00 - 9:00 PM	Myan's Badminton vs Peregrine Manila Family Badminton Center vs Smash Ville Fitness Center	

NOV 6

11:00 AM	Opening Ceremonies
12:00 NN	Badminton Clinic with Coach Martin Araneta
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3:00 PM	Intermission: Fun Games
4:00 PM	Semi Finals
7:00 PM	Finals
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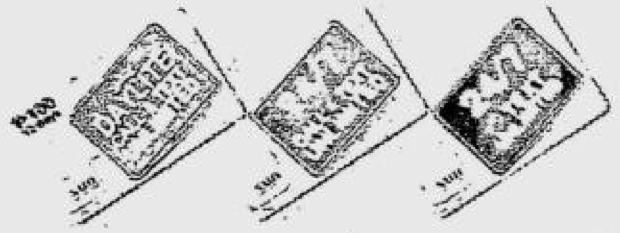

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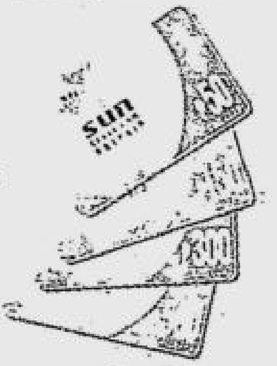

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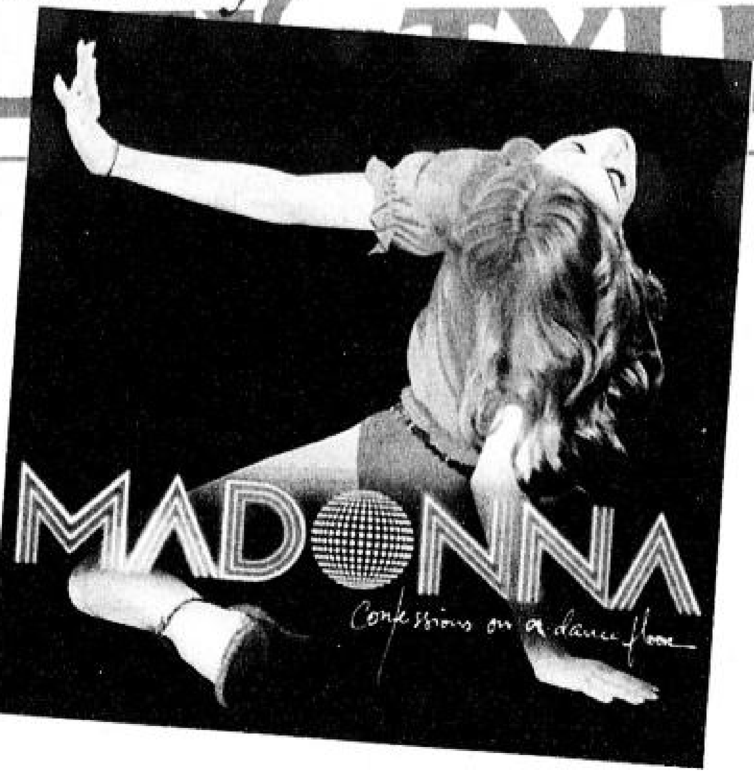
The return of Madonna and Tom Ford in his birthday suit


MADONNA
Confessions on a dance floor

The buzz is that for anyone who has ever thought of Madonna as a has-been, this new album will make those naysayers kneel at her feet

T'NT TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

MUST-HAVE CDs—MADONNA and Il Divo (its second). There are two CDs you have to watch out for in November. The first is Queen of Pop Madonna's "Return to the Dance Floor." It is scheduled for release worldwide by the second week of November. Those who have heard the album have been gushing about it.

Critics and fans say its a cross between ABBA and the '80s. Madonna is actually sporting a '70s cut reminiscent of **Farrah Fawcett**, and if she is sporting the hair and clothes, can fashionistas be far behind? The album is pure dance, like listening to Ministry of Sound or Hed Kandi, but one that is so addictively danceable. The buzz is that for anyone who has ever thought of her as a has-been, this album will make those naysayers kneel at her feet!

Pop/opera sensation Il Divo is back with a second album titled "Ancora." In the new album, the guys have a duet with **Celine Dion**, and do cover versions of **Mariah Carey's** "Hero" and **Eric Carmen's** "All by Myself" sung in Spanish, "Unchained Melody" in Italian and the Christmas classic "O Holy Night."

I was recently in Monte Carlo where I bumped into Il Divo at a yacht party. They were very nice. Of course, I told them how much I enjoyed their music and asked if they were planning to come to Manila. They said there were no plans yet, although at the time they were set to perform in HK at the newly opened Four Seasons hotel. (The concert was last weekend, and a friend of mine who saw the concert said they were really great.)

Tom Ford goes *au naturel*. "When sex goes out of business, so do we." That's one nugget of wisdom from hunky fashion designer-turned-movie director (almost)-turned-beauty/fragrance specialist for Estèe Lauder, Tom Ford.

In the November issue of W magazine, Ford is captured in a provocative and controversial manner as he buffs the buttocks of a male model, French-kisses a mannequin, and—the *pièce de résistance*—sprawls naked on a bed between two female models.

This is vintage Ford, who is forever pushing the envelope. Remember his controversial Gucci images, from a "G" Brazilian wax on a female model to the first-ever full frontal male shot for YSL perfume?

Another reason this shoot is a big deal is because Tom Ford is blessed with movie-star looks. He is probably the only designer who can pull this off. I cannot imagine **Karl Lagerfeld** or **John Galliano** in the buff!

When the magazine asked him why he wanted to get naked, he answered:

"I've had a lot of criticism for objectifying women and always taking their clothes off. I thought, well, why shouldn't I take my clothes off."

Touché!

Must-have "healthy" snacks—Holy Kettle Corn and Go Nuts Lite. The whole world is looking for alternative snacking schemes. Gone are the days when we could munch on things without looking at the fat and calorie content. I remember as a child growing up eating Cow Label and actually eating that with rice (scary thought now), or the all-time favorite Chocnut.

Well, I discovered two munchies that are the best alternative. Go Nuts Donuts has gone lite. Its donuts still have the melt-in-your-mouth taste, but with only one gram of sugar. The brains behind this local franchise have made a breakthrough, since it's the first of its kind in the world.

The lite donuts come in two flavors—Glaze and Mocha cream—and are available in all outlets in Metro Manila.

The other munchie I crave for is Holy Kettle Corn, which I first tasted at a birthday/children's party hosted by **Tessa Prieto-Valdes.** I have been hooked since. So hooked I eat it every day and have made it my meal replacement. I'm not sure if that's all good, but it is so addicting! On the package it says, "Great diet food. It has no butter, cholesterol, preservatives, artificial flavors or MSG, and it's high in fiber."

I purchase mine at Rustan's Supermarket—main branch. The best aspect of these two great products is that they are totally Pinoy—in concept, creation and production. Something we can be proud of and should support!

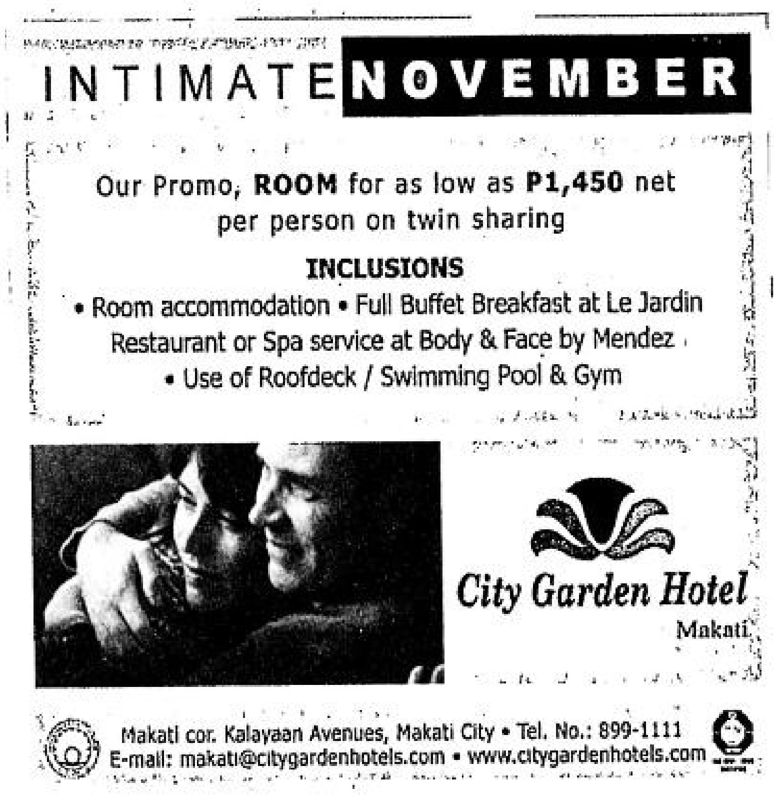
Where to travel next—Siem Reap, Cambodia, and Danang, Vietnam. I recently came back from a terrific trip to Cambodia and Vietnam. Cambodia, particularly Siem Reap (think Angkor Wat), is probably the most magical and enigmatic city in Asia in terms of its history and culture. I've been there twice, and it is always a treat to go back.

It was my first visit to Danang, Vietnam, and it was quite a surprise. The hotel, beaches and food were beautiful, and the shopping was great! Women will totally love the shawls, curios, lanterns and Vietnamese handicrafts, all inexpensive.

Singapore Airlines, along with sister company Silk Air, jointly offer three-destination value travel packages to Siem Reap, Danang and Singapore with prices starting from US$698 per person. The package includes roundtrip economy class airfare from Manila, Cebu or Davao, six nights' accommodation based on twin share (two nights, Siem Reap; two-nights, Danang; and two nights, Singapore), daily hotel breakfasts in Siem Reap and Danang, full-day Angkor Wat tour and airport transfers. It's actually less expensive than going to some destinations in Manila. (Paging the Secretary of Tourism!) This offer is until Dec. 31 only. Call 7568899 loc. 7000-3.

E-mail the author at antonsd@philtatler.com

AFTER GETTING artistically nowhere with "new muzik," Madonna tries to revive her sagging musical fortune with a CD that harks back to the '70s. May her music catch up with her fashion.



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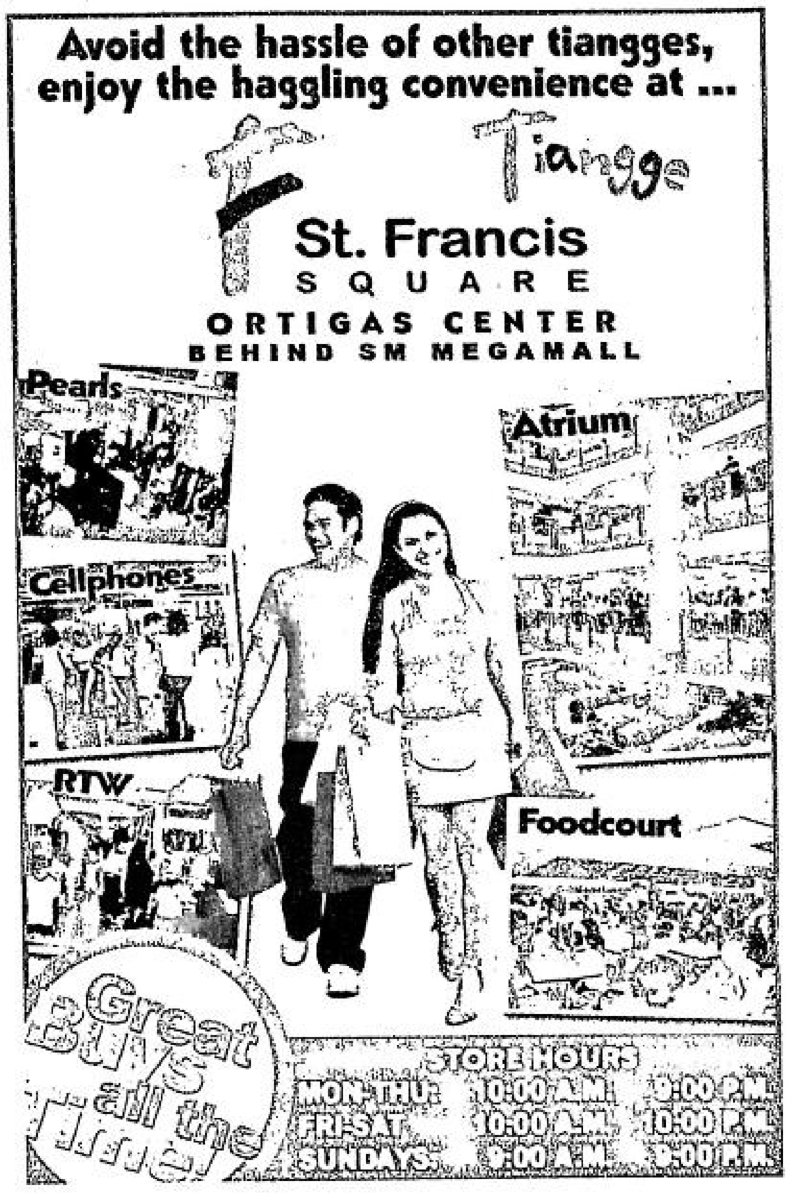

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INQUIRER COMICS Sunday

NOVEMBER 6, 2005

e-mail feedback: arts@inquirer.com.ph

RAGNAROK

BY LEVEL UP

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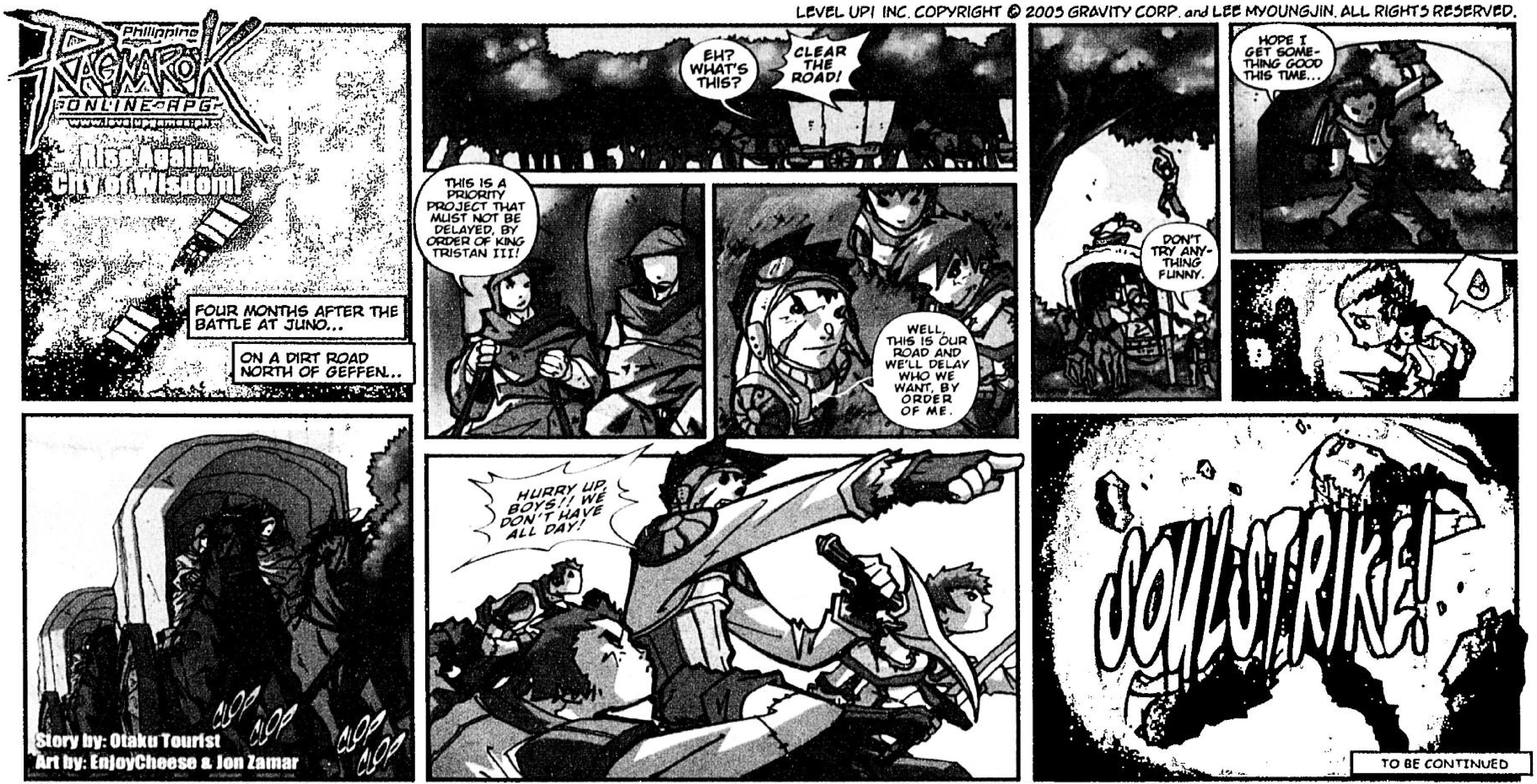
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FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE BATTLE AT JUNO...
ON A DIRT ROAD NORTH OF GEFFEN...
EH? WHAT'S THIS?
CLEAR THE ROAD!
DON'T TRY ANY-THING FUNNY.
HOPE I GET SOME-THING GOOD THIS TIME...
THIS IS A PRIORITY PROJECT THAT MUST NOT BE DELAYED, BY ORDER OF KING TRISTAN III!
WELL, THIS IS OUR ROAD AND WE'LL DELAY WHO WE WANT, BY ORDER OF ME.
CLOP CLOP CLOP CLOP
HURRY UP, BOYS!! WE DON'T HAVE ALL DAY!
SOULSTRIKE!
TO BE CONTINUED

Story by: Otaku Tourist
Art by: EnjoyCheese & Jon Zamar

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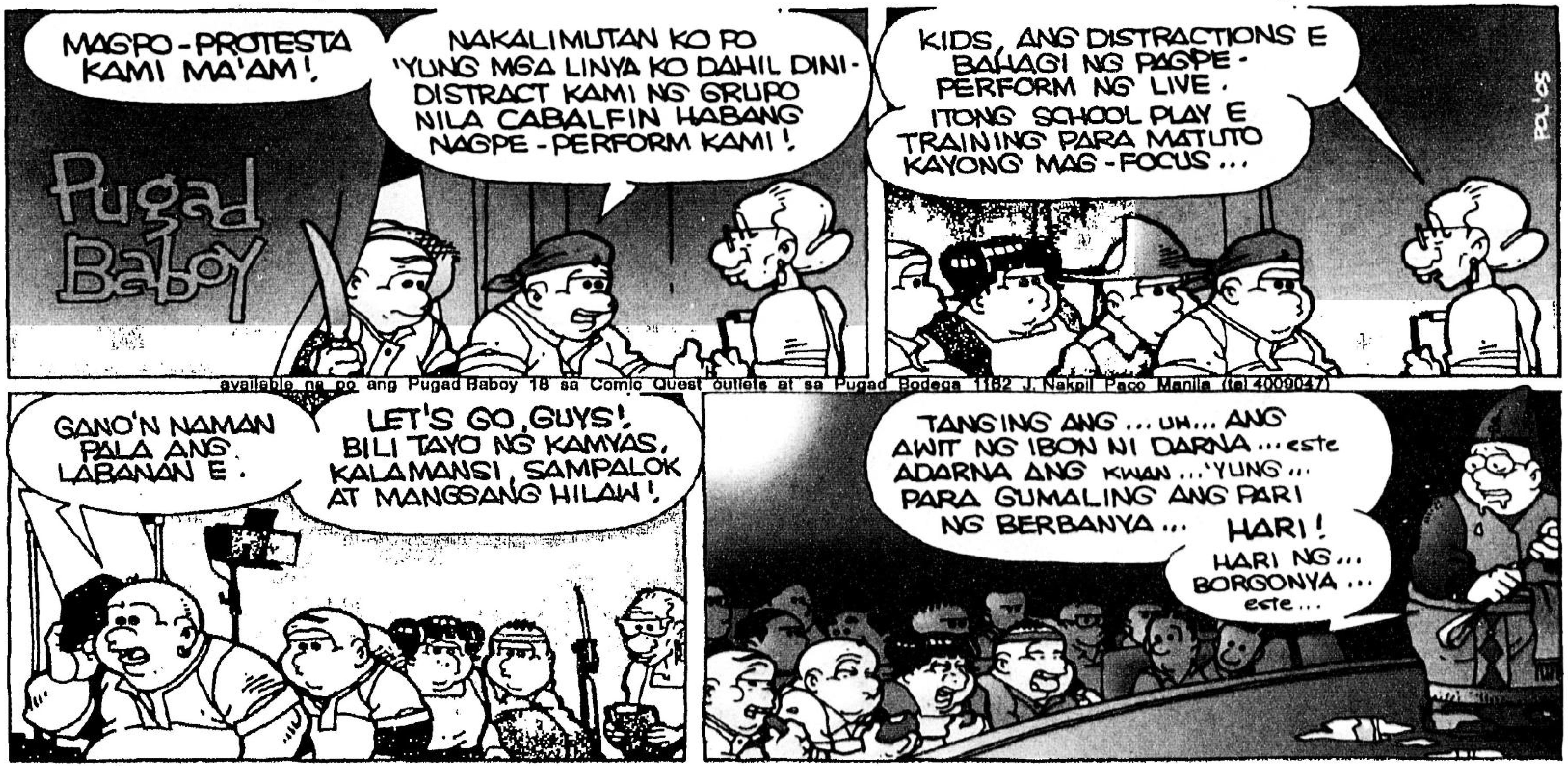
PUGAD BABOY

BY POL MEDINA JR.

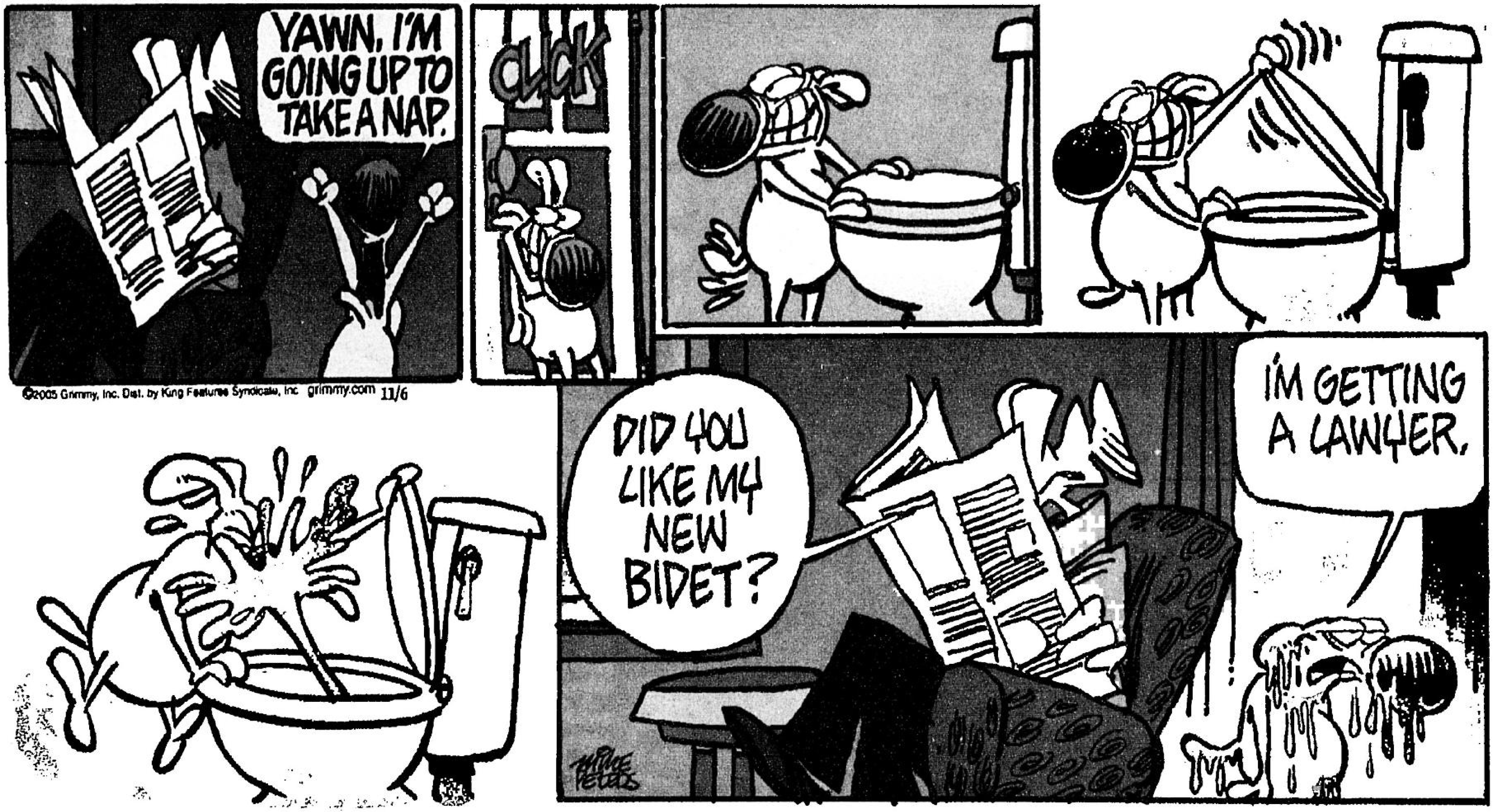

Pugad Baboy
MAGPO-PROTESTA KAMI MA'AM!
NAKALIMUTAN KO PO 'YUNG MGA LINYA KO DAHIL DINI-DISTRACT KAMI NG GRUPO NILA CABALFIN HABANG NAGPE-PERFORM KAMI!
KIDS, ANG DISTRACTIONS E BAHAGI NG PAGPE-PERFORM NG LIVE. ITONG SCHOOL PLAY E TRAINING PARA MATUTO KAYONG MAG-FOCUS...
POL '05
GANO'N NAMAN PALA ANG LABANAN E.
LET'S GO, GUYS! BILI TAYO NG KAMYAS, KALAMANSI, SAMPALOK AT MANGSANG HILAW!
TANGING ANG... UH... ANG AWIT NG IBON NI DARNA... este ADARNA ANG KWAN... 'YUNG... PARA GUMALING ANG PARI NG BERBANYA...
HARI!
HARI NG... BORGONYA... este...

available na po ang Pugad Baboy 18 sa Comic Quest outlets at sa Pugad Bodega 1182 J. Nakpil Paco Manila (tel 4009047)

FOLLOW THE FOLD TO GET TO MIDGARD

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


YAWN, I'M GOING UP TO TAKE A NAP.
CLICK
DID YOU LIKE MY NEW BIDET?
I'M GETTING A LAWYER.
MIKE PETERS
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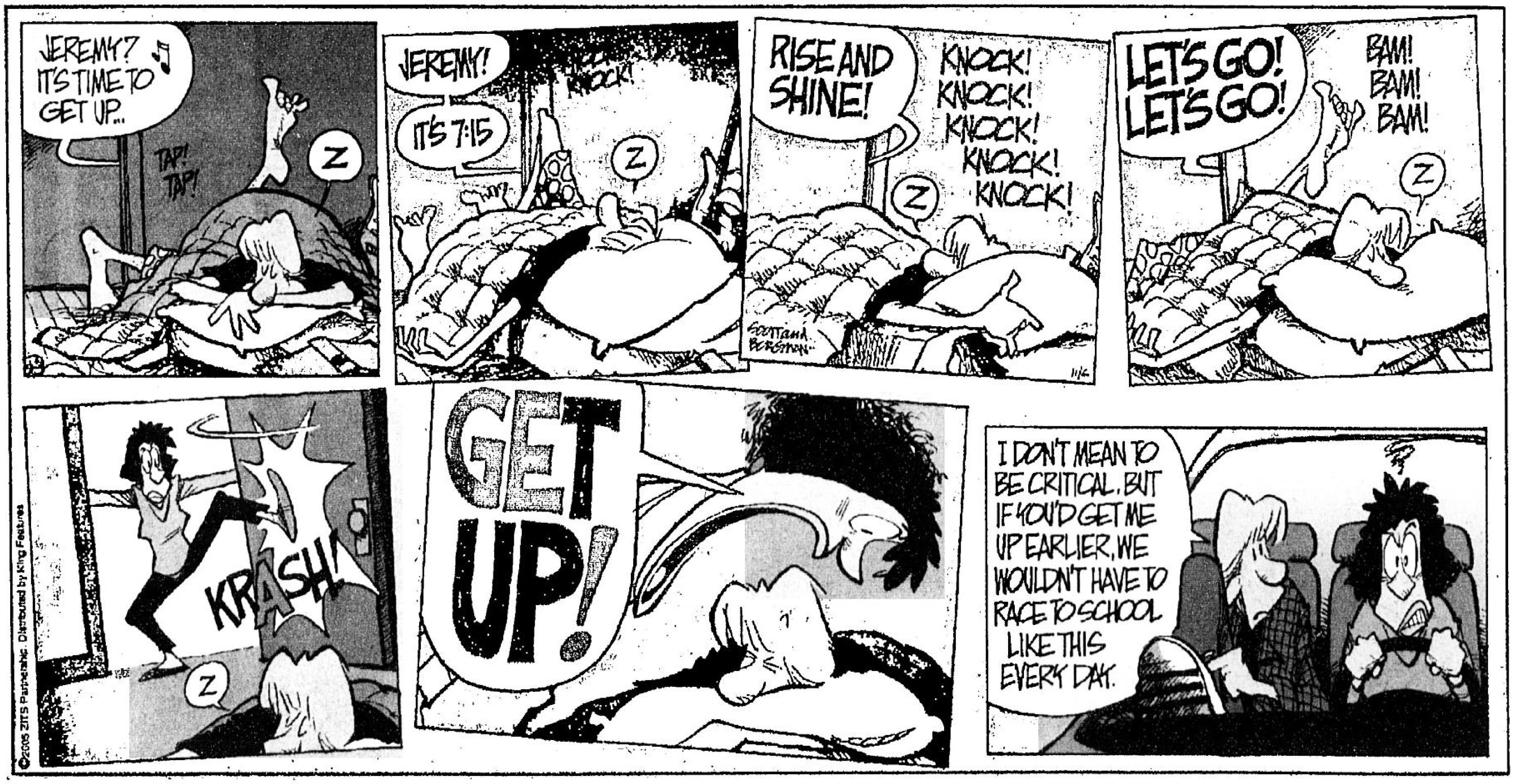
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


JEREMY? IT'S TIME TO GET UP...
TAP! TAP!
Z
JEREMY!
IT'S 7:15
KNOCK!
Z
RISE AND SHINE!
KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK!
Z
SCOTT and BORGMAN
11/6
LET'S GO! LET'S GO!
BAM! BAM! BAM!
Z
KRASH!
Z
GET UP!
I DON'T MEAN TO BE CRITICAL, BUT IF YOU'D GET ME UP EARLIER, WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO RACE TO SCHOOL LIKE THIS EVERY DAY.
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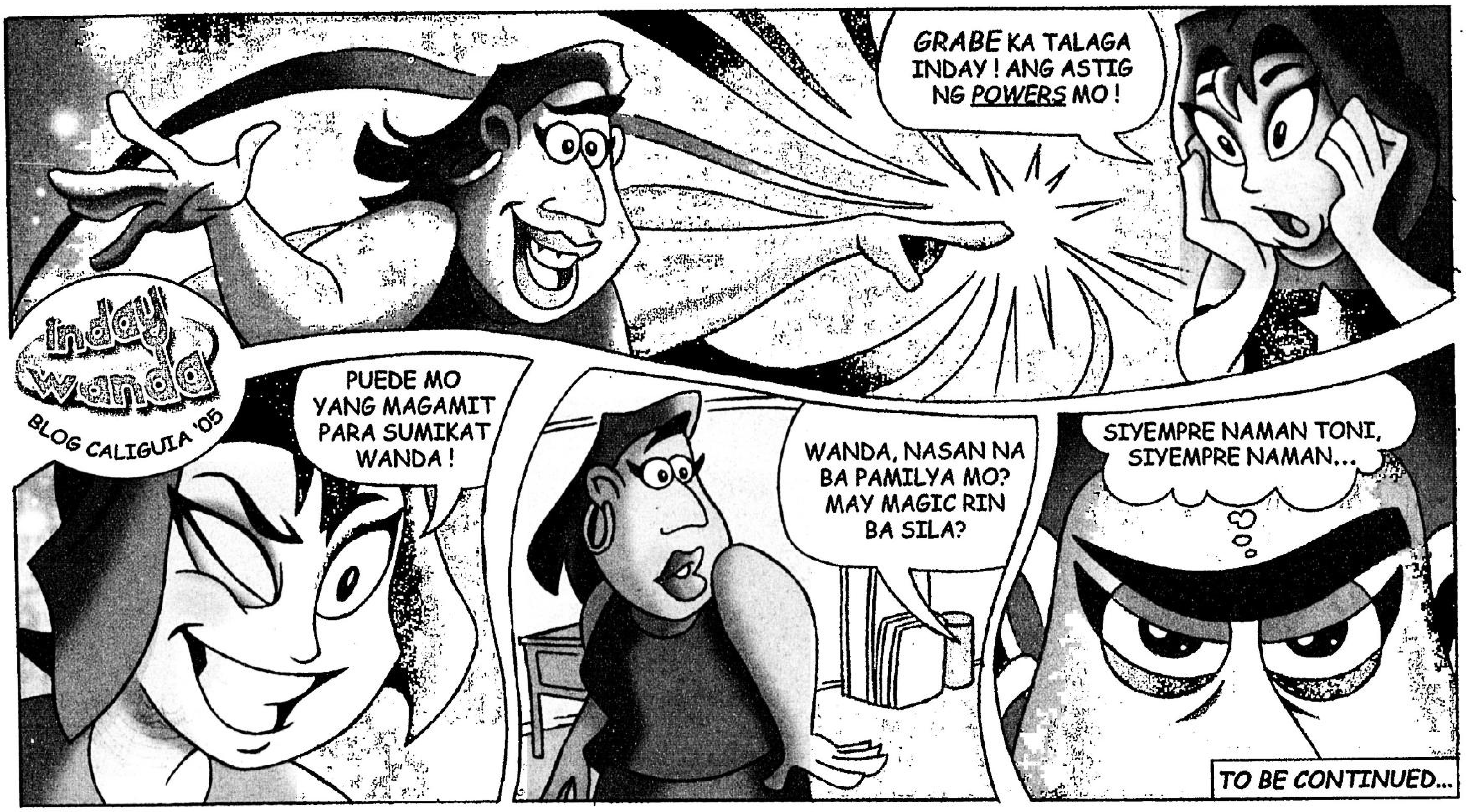
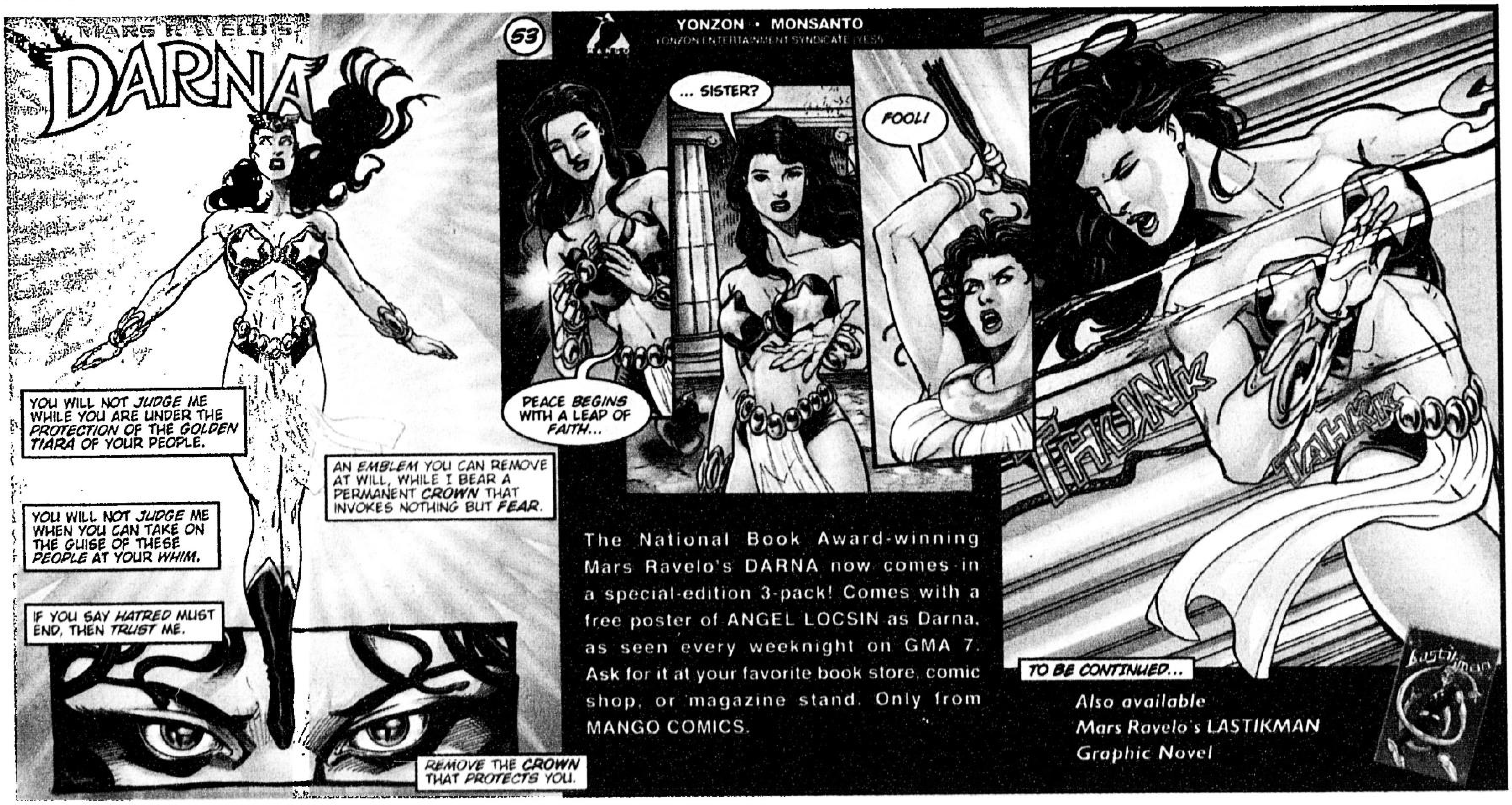
INDAY WANDA

BY BLOG CALIGUIA


GRABE KA TALAGA INDAY ! ANG ASTIG NG POWERS MO !
inday wanda
BLOG CALIGUIA '05
PUEDE MO YANG MAGAMIT PARA SUMIKAT WANDA !
WANDA, NASAN NA BA PAMILYA MO? MAY MAGIC RIN BA SILA?
SIYEMPRE NAMAN TONI, SIYEMPRE NAMAN...
TO BE CONTINUED...

DARNA

BY MANGO COMICS


MARS RAVELO'S
DARNA
YOU WILL NOT JUDGE ME WHILE YOU ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE GOLDEN TIARA OF YOUR PEOPLE.
YOU WILL NOT JUDGE ME WHEN YOU CAN TAKE ON THE GUISE OF THESE PEOPLE AT YOUR WHIM.
AN EMBLEM YOU CAN REMOVE AT WILL, WHILE I BEAR A PERMANENT CROWN THAT INVOKES NOTHING BUT FEAR.
IF YOU SAY HATRED MUST END, THEN TRUST ME.
REMOVE THE CROWN THAT PROTECTS YOU.
53
MANGO
YONZON • MONSANTO
YONZON ENTERTAINMENT SYNDICATE (YES)
PEACE BEGINS WITH A LEAP OF FAITH...
... SISTER?
FOOL!
THONK
TAHKK
TO BE CONTINUED...
Lastikman

The National Book Award-winning Mars Ravelo's DARNA now comes in a special-edition 3-pack! Comes with a free poster of ANGEL LOCSIN as Darna, as seen every weeknight on GMA 7. Ask for it at your favorite book store, comic shop, or magazine stand. Only from MANGO COMICS.

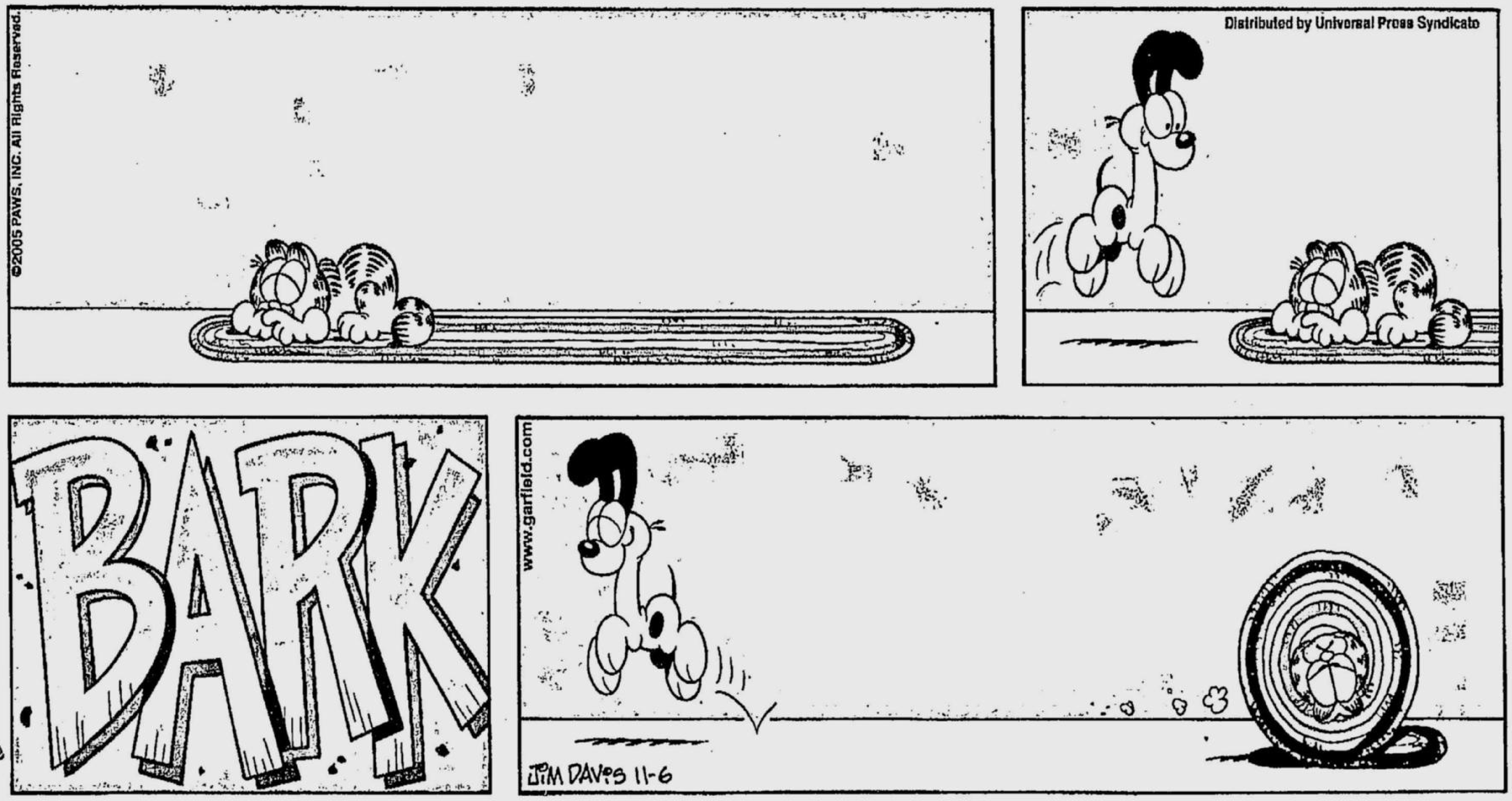
Also available
Mars Ravelo's LASTIKMAN
Graphic Novel

A.

FOLD OUT AT CENTER TO GET THE BIG PICTURE

GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS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BARK
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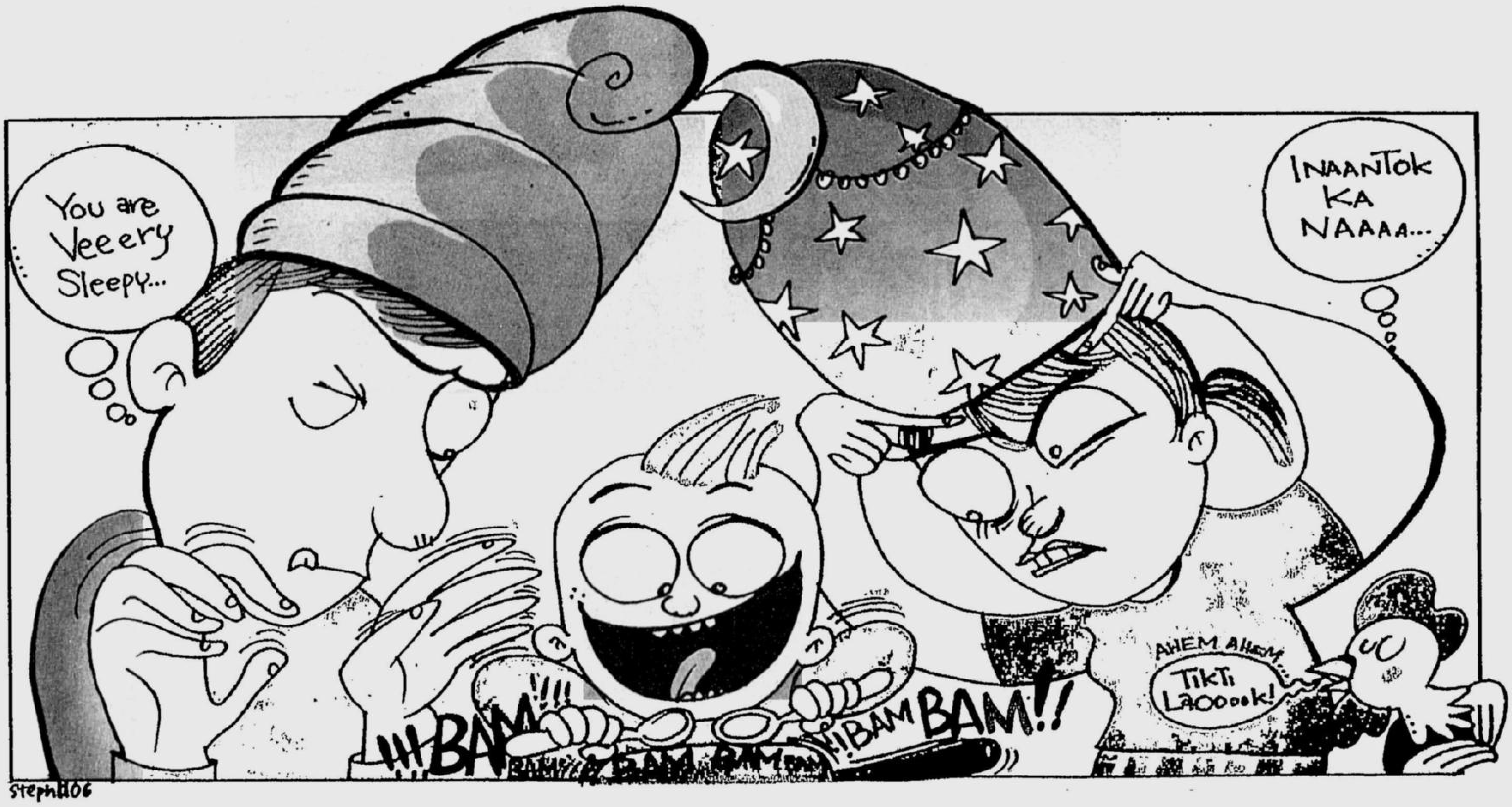
JIM DAVIS 11-6

FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO


You are Veeery Sleepy...
INAANTOK KA NAAAA...
!!!BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM!!!
!BAM BAM!!
AHEM AHEM...
TIKTI LAOOOOK!
steph1106

B. TURN THE PAGE TO GET IT RIGHT

He wants to be a Muslim to marry her

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcel

DEAR EMILY,

I've been with this guy for eight months already and I love him very badly. But it's a wrong kind of relationship because he's married with two kids.

I gave up my boyfriend of 10 years for him because he made me feel very special and very valued, unlike my ex-boyfriend. I felt desperate before I met this married man because for 10 years my ex-boyfriend didn't even look for a job so we could start a family.

I'm 26 and my ex-boyfriend is 32. The married guy is 38.

My mom used to tell me to break up with my ex because he was not responsible enough. His mom made decisions for him. He is so unlike this 38-year-old guy who helps me grow and try to see the real world.

We've been to bed many times. He said he hadn't had sex with his wife for years now. That sometimes made me think if that was his only reason for pursuing me. But he assured me it was not.

He said he was serious about me and was even asking his Muslim friend how to convert to Islam so he could make me his second wife. I look forward to his visits to my house. I could count with the fingers of one hand the number of times my ex visited me at home in the 10 years we were together.

If I were to leave this married man, I might have to resign from work because we not only worked in the same company, we also belonged to the same section. It will be very difficult to avoid him.

What should I do?

CONSCIOUS

Your married boyfriend certainly knows how to get into a single girl's pants and not make her feel guilty about it! Promising to make you his second wife when he changes his religious affiliation takes the cake in any book.

It's amazing you didn't develop hiccups when he said that. I didn't realize that switching religions had become an attractive come-on, as irresistible as a lifetime free ride in an airline in making illicit sex palatable! Goodness gracious. Some men are just so shamelessly creative!

You're only 26. Can you please give yourself a chance at finding the right man without breaking up a family? You've already gone to bed with him. He's had the sexual satisfaction he said he hadn't been getting from his wife. Enough already!

That song and dance about becoming a Muslim so he could marry you was just a lot of bull. I hope you are not buying that! If he can fool around under the nose of his first wife, what will stop him from fooling around when you become his second wife? Isn't that what he plans to do? Muslims are allowed up to four wives. Can you take his having third and fourth wives? You are not exempt from experiencing the same fate.

The fact that he is still with his wife is a clear sign he is not serious about you. Had he fallen head over heels in love with you, you wouldn't be writing to me. He'd have dumped his wife, gotten a legal separation or annulment pronto, and you two.would already be living together. It's that simple.

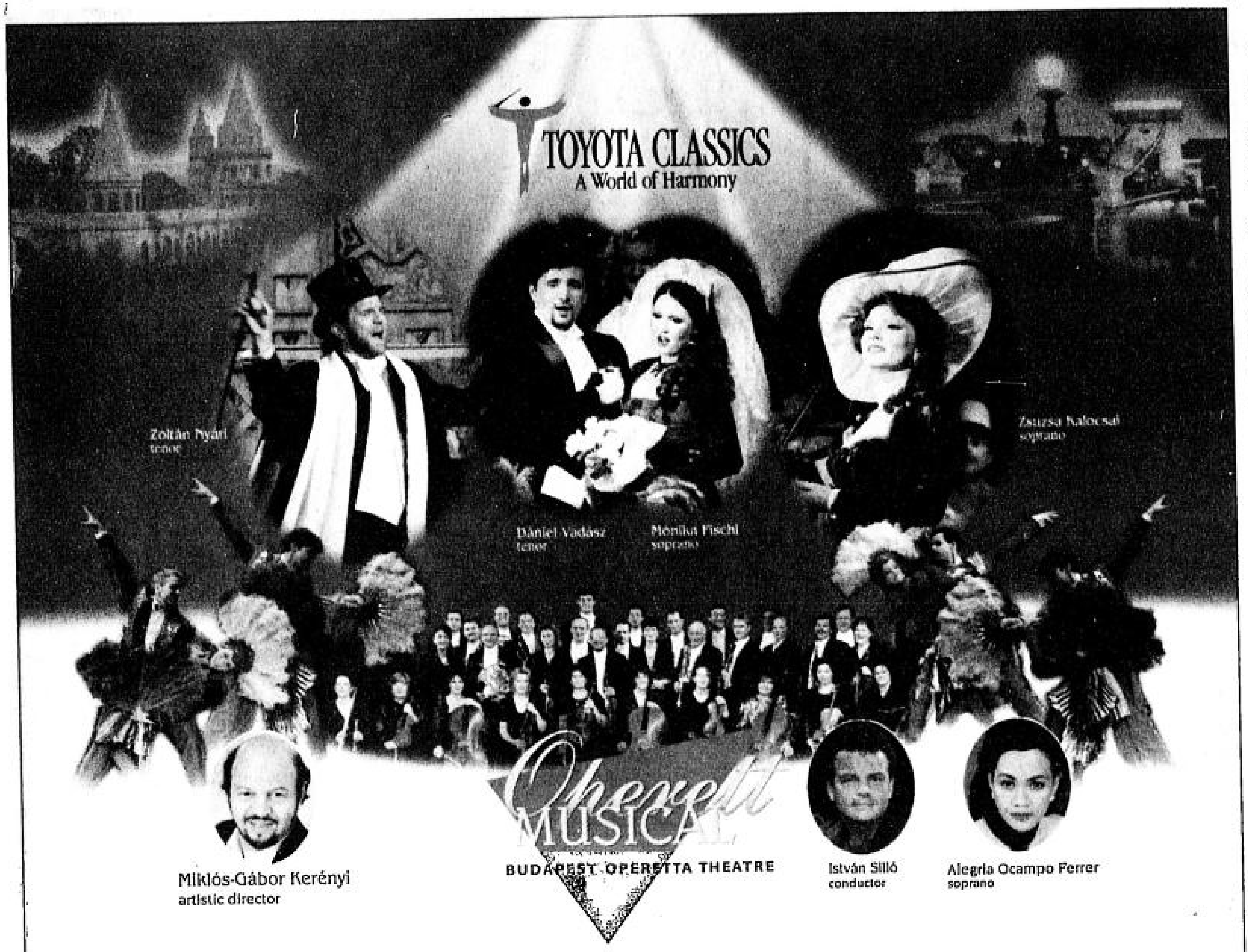
The separation papers might be a bit complicated to work on, but you'd be living together for sure—were he into you body and soul, as he proclaimed.

Take a breather from this episode. Have that long vacation, if you are due for one. Or talk to your supervisor and ask to be assigned to another office. Make up a plausible story that won't endanger your employment.

If this proves too difficult, start looking for another job somewhere else. You have close friends I'm sure who can help you. Don't dig a deeper hole for yourself. You can get rid of this person if you really want to. The big question that only you can answer though is, "Do you really want to leave him?"

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to Inquirer. Listen to Ms. Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday-Friday on dwBR 104.3 FM.

SHANGRI-LA BASH FOR THE MEDIA
The four Shangri-La properties in the country—Makati Shangri-La (SLM), Edsa Shangri-La (ESL), Shangri-La's Mactan Island Resort and Spa (MAC) in Cebu, and Traders Hotel Manila (THM)—hosted its annual appreciation party for the print and broadcast media at the SLM's Rizal Ballroom. The theme was "Tropical Nights." In attendance were all the general managers headed by Tomas Zita, chair of Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts Philippines. From left: Jopy G. Lopez, Benedict Peter Lim, Lourdes Juco, John Rice, Tomas Zita, Jarlath Lynch, Timothy Wright and Henry Lee. Partly hidden at the back is Neil Rumbaoa.



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- possess proficient basic computer skills
- open to working odd hours
- courteous, attentive, and able to develop rapport
- dependable and has good work ethic
- detail-oriented
- fluent in English and highly conversational
- problem solver

CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVE FOR INBOUND CUSTOMER SERVICE WITH UPSELLING

- ability to identify customer needs
- ability to learn and apply procedures
- comfortable with sales
- detail-oriented

CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVE FOR FINANCIAL PROGRAM

- ability to discover customer needs
- preferably took a business-related course in college
- banking experience is an advantage
- detail-oriented
- possess good analytical skills

CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVE FOR OUTBOUND CUSTOMER SERVICE

- preferably with 6 months call center/telemarketing experience, but not required
- customer service that requires upselling (after sales follow up calls)
- ability to establish good rapport
- above average communication skills

TECHNICAL CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVE

- possess proficient basic computer skills
- open to working odd hours
- courteous, attentive, and able to develop good rapport
- dependable and has good work ethic
- detail-oriented
- fluent in English and highly conversational
- knowledgeable in DSL, internet, and networking

TEAM LEADER

- at least 6 months previous experience as a supervisor/team leader
- bachelor's degree in a related field
- call center/customer service background is preferred
- strong ability to maximize performance
- willing to be assigned in any location

OPERATIONS MANAGER

- at least 2 years supervisory experience in managing the performance of others in a call center or multinational company
- can communicate with all levels of management
- experience in managing functional work groups
- willing to be assigned in any location

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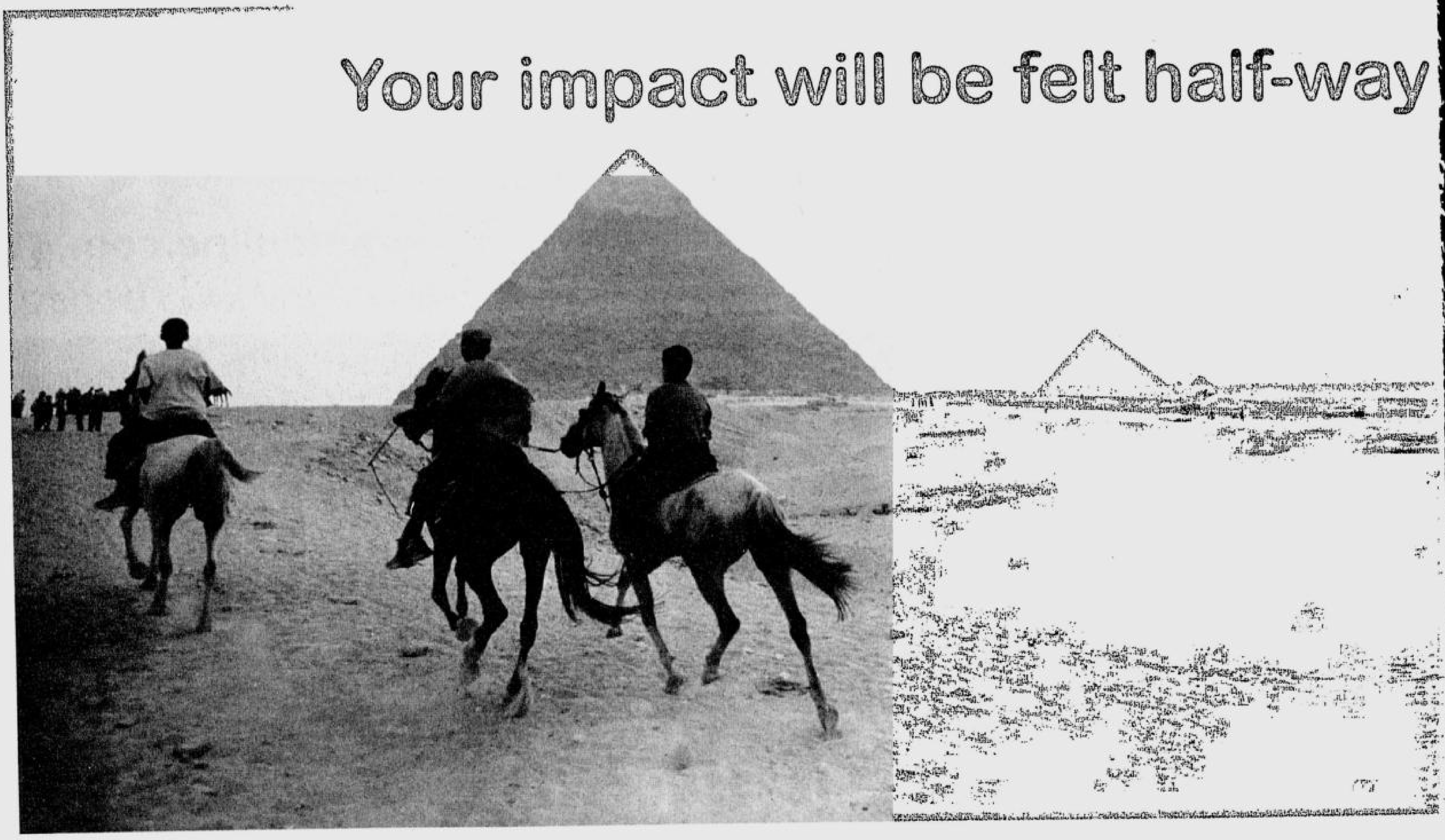
Your impact will be felt half-way

RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST

The ideal candidate will have:
At least a year of experience in recruitment, preferably from Manpower Sourcing (Head Hunting), HR Consultancies, Hotels & Restaurants, Call Centers, Sales/Marketing and other Service-driven Industries

A bachelor's degree with outstanding expertise or facility in English Communication, both oral & written

A personality that would deliver outstanding customer service and build solid rapport both with the Philippine and United States staff

A sense of urgency and excitement to generate hires and drive the business forward

An ability to multi-task and enjoy diverse functions such as marketing, promotions, advertising, retention, recruitment trips and communication skills assessment

COPY & DESIGN SPECIALIST

The ideal candidate will have:
At least 2 years of professional experience in copy production/editing & graphic layout designing utilizing various media gained from high-volume demand/fast moving consumer goods, publishing/printing, or promotions/advertising industries

A bachelor's degree and/or certificate in multimedia or fine arts, graphic design, desktop publishing with expertise in various graphic software, preferably Adobe (expertise with Flash animation & web design is an advantage)

A personality that can complement a dynamic, customer service-driven organization and build cohesive organizational chemistry among Philippine and United States staff

A sense of urgency and excitement to deliver copy & designs on demand/deadlines

An ability to multi-task between projects with keen sense of prioritization

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Senior SWIFT Operations Assistant

Responsibilities

The position is responsible for providing administrative support to SWIFT operations. Specific responsibilities include:

SWIFT Operations
Coordinating and controlling the use of ADB's SWIFT system by the authorized users in various divisions for the handling of fund transfers, settlement of investments, purchases of foreign exchange etc.

User Training
Providing guidance and support to different SWIFT users and training new users in using systems.

Key Arrangement
Assisting the Specialist in the establishment and management of SWIFT Bilateral Key Exchange (BKE) and telex authenticator key arrangements with depository correspondent banks worldwide.

Periodic Reports
- Preparing daily summary of incoming and outgoing messages for reconciliation purposes.
- Preparing monthly statistical reports on volume of SWIFT communications.

Messages
- Reviewing and checking all SWIFT messages before they are dispatched to ensure that the messages are constructed in compliance with SWIFT message text standards
- Monitoring messages pertaining to failed BKE and incorrect telex test numbers.

Routing
Controlling and identifying message retrieved from the system to ensure that all messages are routed to the correct address.

Security
Conducting constant checking and monitoring of the system to ensure that all security measures are implemented.

Others
Performing any other duties as required.

Reporting Arrangement

The position reports to a Treasury Specialist.

Selection Criteria

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level.
- Bachelor's degree in accounting, banking, finance, business administration or other related disciplines; preferably a CPA
- At least 5 years experience.
- Comprehensive knowledge of SWIFT System
- Familiarity with treasury facilities: depository banks, different bank accounts and various financial correspondents; treasury and organization-wide mainframe systems and computer software applications.
- Considerable treasury related clerical experience and a comprehensive knowledge of relevant treasury procedures, guidelines and standards.
- Understanding of the interactions between treasury and other work areas.
- Solid numerical ability.
- Excellent command of written and spoken English.
- Proficiency in use of computer data bases to input and extract information and to generate standard and ad hoc reports.
- Solid interpersonal skills and ability to provide work-related feedback to coworkers
- Proven ability to work independently and set own work priorities.

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Apply electronically, quoting Ref. No. EXT-AS05-172(4)-TDTS and job title on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/applform.asp to e-mail address: CS-jobs@adb.org by 21 November 2005.

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered

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BOTH MUST BE:
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Interested applicants may send their resumé with recent photo at the our address or via E-mail:

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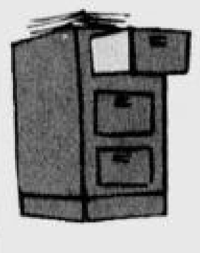

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VSO Bahaginan is currently looking for a

PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & FUND RAISING OFFICER

(Job Code: PDFRO)

to generate funding support for sending Filipino VSO volunteers overseas, support towards national volunteering, and aid in the implementation of VSO Bahaginan's development goals.

Accountability:
The Partnership Development & Fund Raising Officer (PDFRO) reports regularly to the Director and to the Board of Trustees of VSO Bahaginan for programme results. The PDFRO will be guided by an approved Five Year Resource Mobilization Strategy.

Description:
The Partnership Development & Fund Raising Officer is a self-driven and dynamic person possessing relevant written and oral communication skills, as well as strong analytical skills. The PDFRO works closely with the team and is envisioned to help plan and implement the fund raising strategy, including support activities, such as programme marketing and donor research on a country and regional level.

Goals:
The PDFRO will be responsible for VSO Bahaginan's program funding activities through the development of long-term partnerships with government, foundations and other institutional donors, as well as individual donors.

- Develop VSO Bahaginan's Fund Raising long-term plan
- Diversify funding sources
- Build a donor database
- Achieve financial results

Responsibilities:

- Prioritize funding needs (in coordination with Director and BOT fund raising committee) based on the approved Five Year Resource Mobilization Strategy
- Set annual fund raising targets, in coordination with the Director and Finance
- Come up with fund raising plan and budget, for inclusion in the overall annual budget
- Prepare a yearly operational plan in accordance with VSO Bahaginan's approved Five Year Resource Mobilization Strategy.
- Select, plan and execute fund raising activities or campaigns
- Mobilize the financial, human and other resources needed to carry out the selected fund raising campaigns / activities
- Initiate, develop and maintain relationships with donors in behalf of VSO Bahaginan
- Track, monitor and evaluate fund raising activities on a regular basis to assess whether additional activities are necessary, determine if targets will have to be revised, facilitate continuous learning and improve present and future fund raising activities / campaigns
- Ensure accurate and timely recording and reporting of fund raising transactions
- Continuously build and enhance fund raising capacity
- Continuously work with staff, volunteers and members to ensure that all fund raising and communications programmes are consistent with the overall mission and with the value or concepts of each programme and service
- Mobilize and supervise volunteers or local groups who work on special projects in fund raising and public relations
- Develop and maintain updated donor database system; and
- Organize a Bahaginan fund raising.advisory board

Qualifications:
The successful candidate will possess the following abilities:

- Proven leadership; ability to start up or develop VSO Bahaginan's fund raising programme;
- Knowledge of varied funding sources for international development projects and programs;
- At least five years successful experience in fund raising, partnership development, grant writing or project proposal development;
- Experience working in conjunction with overseas program staff and ability to work as part of an international funding team;
- Capable of representing the institution in external affairs projects and concerns, especially related to fund raising;
- A working knowledge of international development trends and programs;
- Proven experience raising funds from institutional donors/ foundations and fund raising events; and
- Although this position is based in Manila, the candidate must be willing to travel as necessary.

Key Personal Qualities:

- Ability to work well with a team
- Strong public relations skills
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Commitment to Learning
- Appreciation of working in a voluntary sector/ NGO community
- Professional

Application Closes	27 November 2005
Interview Date	09 December 2005
Position Starts	January 15, 2006 or earlier

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified. Interested applicants must read the full details of the job and accomplish the VSO Staff Application Form, which could be downloaded at www.vsobahaginan.org.ph/careers.htm

Please send accomplished VSO Staff Application Form and specify the Job Code (PDFRO) to:

The Director at bahaginan@vsoint.org
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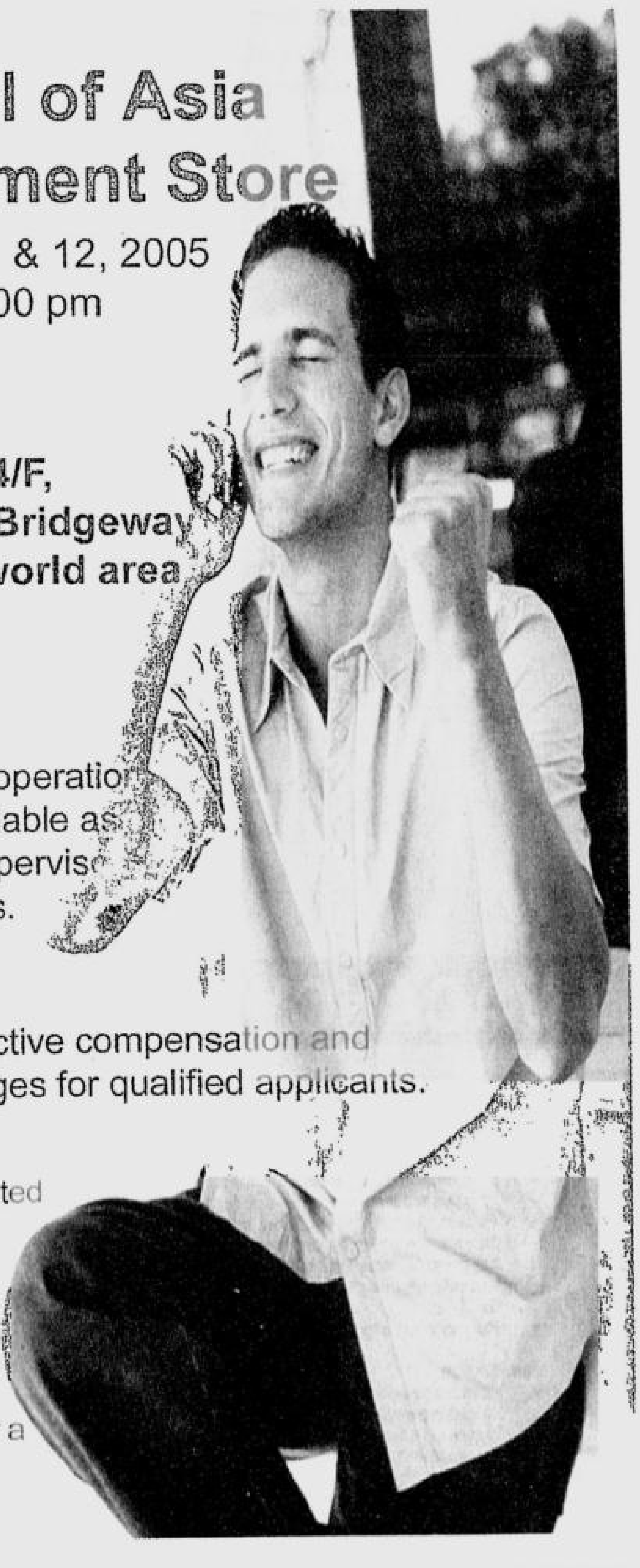

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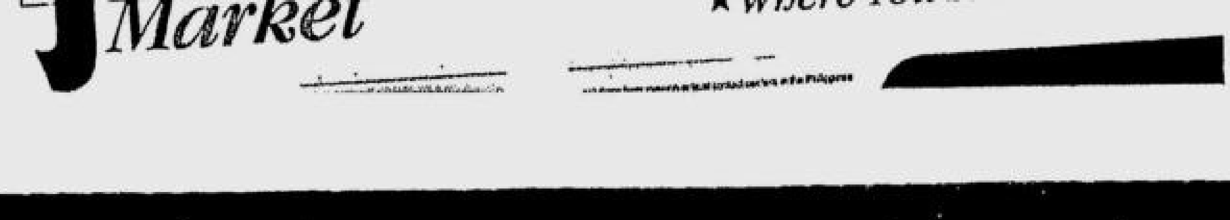
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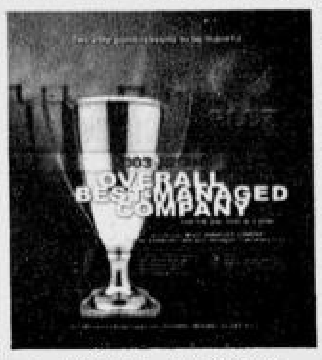

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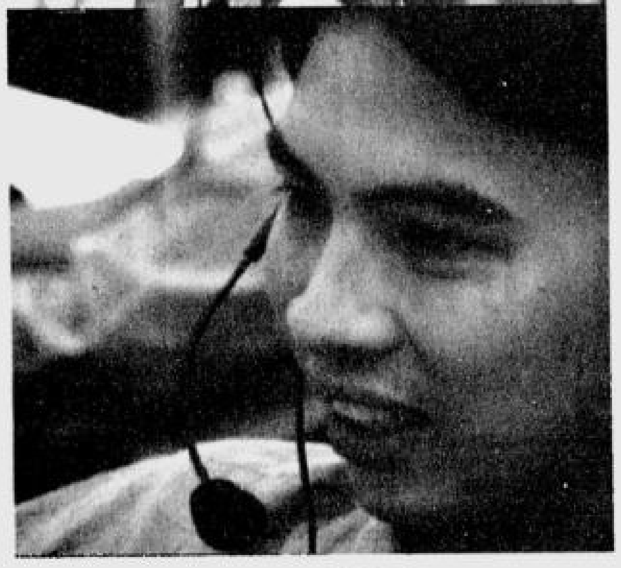

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- ✓ College level (at least 2 years of College)
- ✓ Excellent conversational English
- ✓ Highly motivated and with good orientation in customer service.

TELESALES REPRESENTATIVE

- ✓ College level (at least 2 years of College)
- ✓ Excellent conversational English
- ✓ Must be good in handling tele-sales, assertive, persistent, resilient

TECHNICAL SUPPORT REPRESENTATIVE

- ✓ Preferably a graduate of any computer-related course
- ✓ Excellent conversational English
- ✓ Knowledgeable in computer software/hardware and/or peripherals

MULTI-LINGUAL CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

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email: emanila@hanmail.net
admin@emanila.net

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VACANCY LOGISTIC OFFICER

ACTION CONTRA EL HAMBRE (ACH) is a Spanish humanitarian, non-governmental (N.G.O.), non-religious, non-political and non-profit making organization. ACH has been providing assistance to vulnerable populations in the Philippines since May 2000 in food security, water and sanitation, health and nutrition.

ACH is seeking for a **Logistic Officer** to be placed in Cotabato Base, who will be responsible for the following:

- Co-ordination of the Logistic Department
- Planning and supervision of the activities of the department and the logistic team
- Responsible for the organization of the logistic unit as support service to the technical departments (procurement, storage, transport maintenance, scheduling and deployment.)
- Repairs and maintenance of ACH-base properties and equipment
- Maintain a logs filing system to include all equipment manuals, maintenance schedules and logs documentation (inventories, inmo list,..)
- Responsible relation suppliers.

Qualification:

- Relevant experience of five years as Logistic in private company (construction), with the same responsibilities as required herein or related experience working in NGO's.
- Proven skills on dealing with suppliers and abilities to negotiate.
- Proven ability to work under pressure and produce output of high quality.
- Ability to establish priorities and plan, organize and monitor own work in multiple priority environment.
- Fluency in spoken and written English and Pilipino language is required. Knowledge on Iranon, Maranon and Maguindanao are assets.
- Computer literacy (text processor and spread sheets)

Strong inter-personal skills and ability to establish and maintain effective working relationship with people in a multi-cultural environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity.

An application letter stating your motivation and your current salary, a detailed curriculum vitae, including names, address, daytime telephone contact number and copies of university diploma, and professional references should be sent to:

**Accion Contra el Hambre
Unit D, 12th Floor, PET Plans Tower
444 EDSA, Guadalupe, Makati City
e-mail : achfilipinas@pldtdsl.net**

ALL INCOMPLETE APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE REJECTED
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FERNA CORPORATION (The Food Ingredients Specialist) is currently in need of young, dynamic people to join our team. Below are the required qualifications for the following job openings:

PURCHASING STAFF (CODE: PD/S)
- Female, single
- 25-35 years old
- College Graduate (preferably with experience in procurement, purchasing)
- Has excellent oral and written communication skills
- Computer literate (Windows/MS-Office, a must)
- With pleasing personality, resourceful, hardworking and trustworthy

TECHNICAL SERVICES STAFF (CODE: TSD/S)
- Female, Male, single
- Not over 35 years old
- Degree in BS Food Technology or BS Food Nutrition & Dietetics or any related course, an advantage
- Has ingredients formulation experience
- Has excellent oral and written communication skills

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION STAFF
(CODE: PAD/S)
- Female, single
- Not over 35 years old
- College Graduate
- With excellent computer skills (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Has excellent oral and written communication skills
- With pleasing personality, resourceful, hardworking and trustworthy
- With experience in human resources (an advantage)

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School Physician
- Doctor of Medicine: Pediatrics, or General Practitioner
- Female, not more than 40 years old
- Of good moral character
- To work/fill in the following schedules: Tues (1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.); Wed. (12:00 nn – 5:00 p.m.); Thurs. (7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)

Secretary
- B.S. Computer Secretarial / BS Secretrial Administration graduate
- Female; not more than 30 years old; Good moral character

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BRING: Transcript of Records, Bio-Data, Handwritten Application Letter, SSS #, TIN, ID Picture (1x1)

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Civil Engineers
- at least 2 years work experience
- Knowledgeable in any one of the following
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  - Land Development
  - Steel Erection

Mechanical Engineers
- with at least 2 years work experience overhauling diesel engines and repairing heavy equipment

Heavy Equipment Mechanics
- with at least 2 years work experience overhauling diesel engines and repairing heavy equipment

Auto Electricians
- with experience in repair of electronics

Account Executives
- with experience in sales and marketing
- must be willing to do field work

Accounting Clerks
- with experience in preparation of financial statements

H.R. Manager
- with at least 5 years work experience

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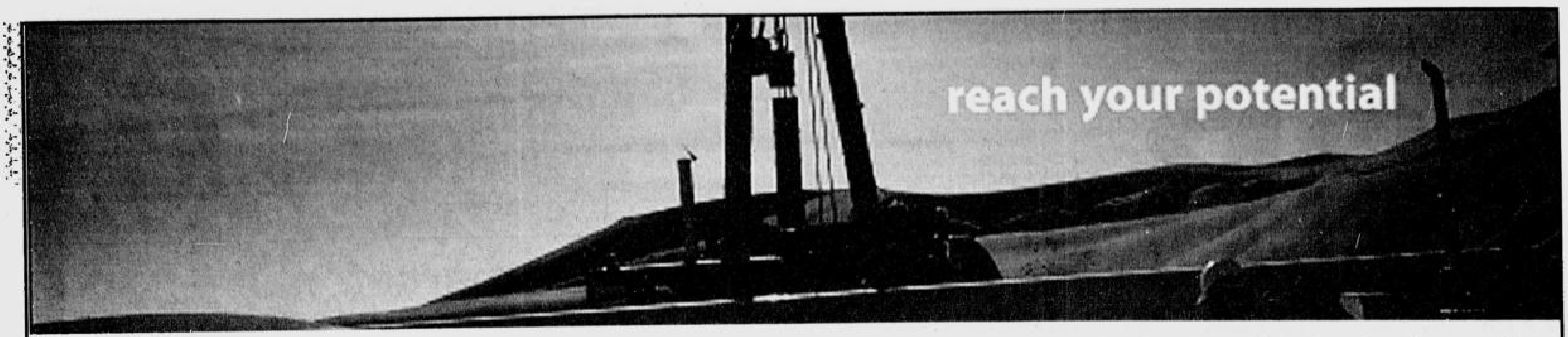

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Maintenance Supervisors
(Mechanical, Electrical, & Instrument Controls)
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(Mechanical, Electrical, & Instrument Controls)
Maintenance Planning Engineers
Plant Inspectors

Minimum requirements

Minimum 5 years experience on
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LPG Production Unit or similar.
Computer literate and experienced
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Minimum 8 years Experience in Oil & Gas.
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Supervisors/Inspectors-Diploma in Mechanical
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Submit CV, 2X2 pictures, NBI,
passport, if available

www.dolphinenergy.com

Oxfam

Oxfam GB's purpose is to work with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering

Oxfam Great Britain's Philippine Programme needs a

Programme Officer – Humanitarian Policy and Practice

In line with Oxfam Great Britain's strategic plans and policy guidelines, Oxfam wishes to build its organizational capacity and partners capacity to continue to respond to disasters both natural and complex in the Philippines. Oxfam also wishes to have a greater impact on humanitarian policies and practices in the Philippines context. Thus, the post will form a focal point within the organization to achieve this purpose.

Key Responsibilities

National level Policy & Practices Changes to development structures and Humanitarian practices

- Consolidate and complete mapping, of perceived capacity gaps in humanitarian policies and practices in the Philippines as well as key development structures relating to natural and complex disasters.
- Clarify based on Oxfam's current work and strategic direction specific policy and practice changes, identified needs which will add value to current structures.
- Identify based on Oxfam's current policies, criteria for partner selection, allowing for the promotion and growth of appropriate innovate ideas.
- Identify possible partners using multiplier effects as part of criteria.
- Using Oxfam guidelines, guide development of partnerships and contract within programme cycle.

Changes to Humanitarian Practices

- Consolidate and complete mapping of key innovative players in Oxfam core humanitarian sectors relating to both natural and complex disasters
- Clarify based on Oxfam's current work in policy and practice changes which will add value to the current structures
- Identify based on Oxfam's current policies, criteria for partner selection
- Identify possible partners using multiplier effects as part of criteria
- Using Oxfam guidelines guide development of partnerships and contact within programme cycle

Core Competencies:

- Mature understanding of development work in the Philippines, preferably in natural disaster management
- Conceptual, critical and analytical thinking
- Initiative and drive to achieve results
- Ability to work effectively with others
- Adaptable and flexible

Essential Specifications

- At least three years work experience with local NGO's or experience in promoting and growing innovation
- Proven track record in innovation
- Have knowledge of the development situation in the Philippines, including social, economic and political issues
- Have knowledge and understanding of Programme cycle management
- Understanding of gender issues in development and commitment to promoting gender equality
- Experience in strategic and programme planning; skills and experience of monitoring, evaluation and appraisal
- Ability to work on own initiative to build on and develop the job, combined with the ability to work effectively as part of a team
- Fluency in written and spoken English
- Good oral and written communication skills and an ability to relate to people from all backgrounds
- Willingness to travel frequently, sometimes in remote areas for extended periods, to visits projects and partners.

The post is for an six (6) months assignment. Interested applicants should submit their application letter with complete CV to:

The Human Resources and Administrative Officer
OXFAM GREAT BRITAIN
95-A Malumanay Street
Teacher's Village
Diliman, Quezon City 1101
FAX: 927-0499 email: etadeo@oxfam.org.uk

Deadline of application 04 November 2005

ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CALLED FOR INTERVIEW

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HealthStar International, Inc. will be returning to the Philippines for the recruitment of additional Registered Nurses and Physical Therapists on **November 16th-17th (for RNs)** and **November 18th (for PTs)**. A total of ***441*** RNs were already deployed by HealthStar to their various clients in the U.S.A. HealthStar International, Inc. has been an outstanding U.S. principal of IPAMS since 1997.

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MUST BE CURRENTLY WORKING IN A HOSPITAL SETTING (ICU/CCU); CGFNS NOT REQUIRED BUT WILL BE AN ADVANTAGE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE PROVIDED TO COVER THE FOLLOWING:

- USCIS / NVC FEES
- APPLICATION & REVIEW - TOEFL/TWE, TSE or IELTS, NCLEX
- TRAVEL & HOTEL IN HONG KONG TO TAKE NCLEX
- MEDICAL FEE FOR SLMCEC
- AIRFARE TO THE U.S.A & ONE (1) MONTH HOUSING

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

MUST HAVE EXCELLENT ENGLISH & GRADUATED FROM TOP SCHOOLS, AT LEAST 2 YRS RECENT EXPERIENCE; U.S. LICENSED OR ELIGIBLE FOR NPTE WILL BE AN ADVANTAGE; MUST HAVE PASSED EITHER TOEFL/TWE or TSE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE PROVIDED TO COVER THE FOLLOWING:

- USCIS FILING FEES FOR H1B
- APPLICATION FOR CREDENTIALS EVALUATION
- APPLICATION FOR TOEFL/TWE, TSE, & ICHP
- NON-IMMIGRANT VISA & TRAVEL TO GUAM TO TAKE NPTE
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- Works irregular hours including Saturdays with minimum supervision.
- College Graduate, Outstanding Oral and Written English Skills. Pleasing Personality, Computer Literate.

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John Robert Powers
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EMAIL manila@johnrobertpowers.com

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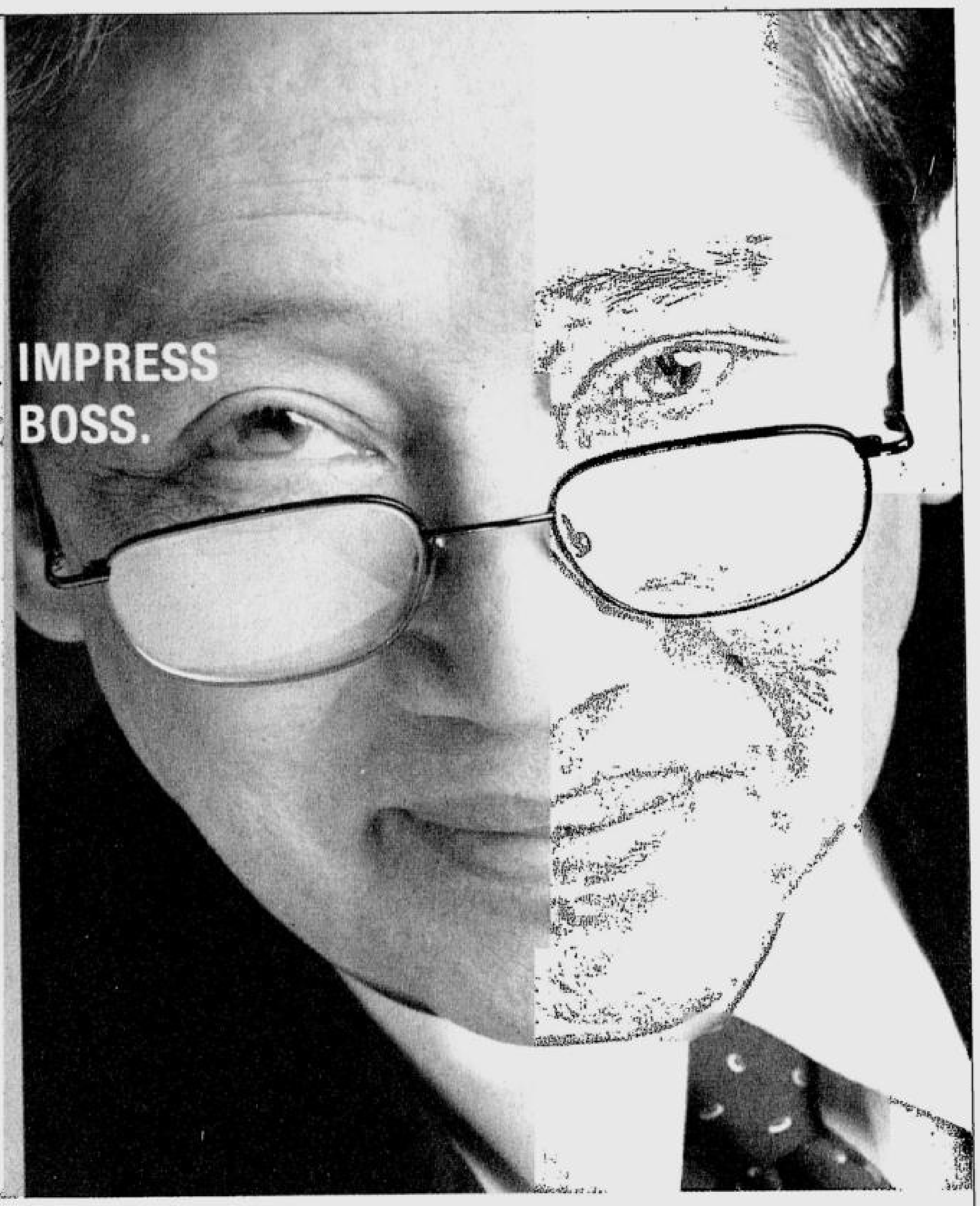

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- Willing to work in a fast-paced, dynamic and schedule-shifting environment
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Call center experience is an advantage

Support & Leadership Posts

- Operations Manager
- Team Leaders
- Workforce Managers
- Workforce Specialists
- Quality Manager
  - Quality Management Systems
- Quality Assurance Specialists
- Quality Consultant (speaks Thai)
- Deputy Manager - Sourcing
- Data Analyst
- IT Operations Managers
- IT Helpdesk Manager
- Security & Policies Manager
- Data Network Specialists
- Voice Network Specialists
- Systems Administrators
- Helpdesk Technical Support
- HR Manager
- Implementation Manager

Call center experience is a must for support and leadership posts.

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Call our Recruitment Hotline:
840-6020
or email your resume to:
applications@daksh.com.ph

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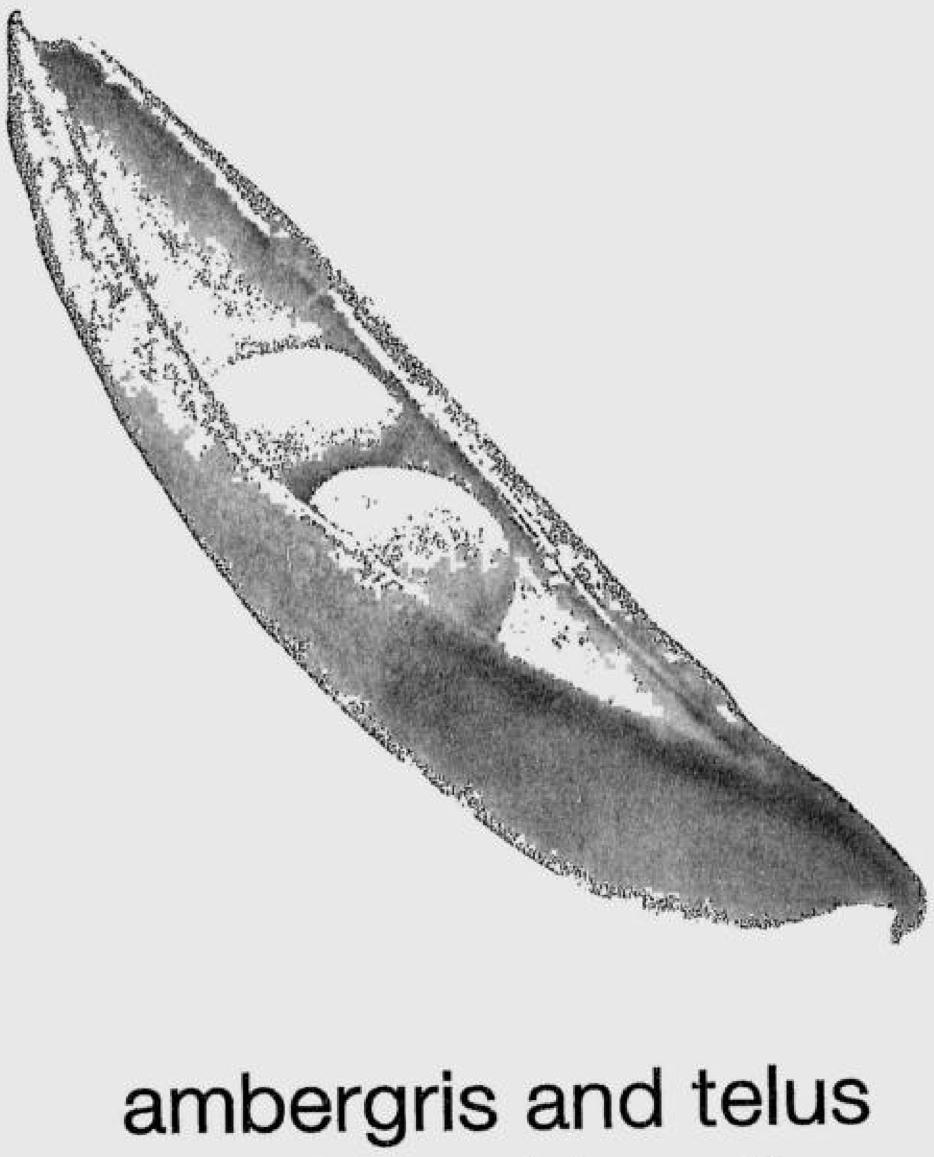
two peas in a pod



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QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGERS
GENERAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR
SECURITY SUPERVISOR
FINANCE SUPERVISOR
SENIOR WORKFORCE ANALYST
DATA ENTRY OPERATORS

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(Financial, Technical, Sales, Inbound, Multi-lingual Accounts)

- Preferably college graduate
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- For Data Entry Operators please submit your resume to manilarecruitment_dataentry@ictgroup.com
- For other positions please submit your resume to recruitingmanila@ictgroup.com

Or VISIT our RECRUITMENT CENTER
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Look for Kay or Pauline

INQUIRER

JOB Market

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2005
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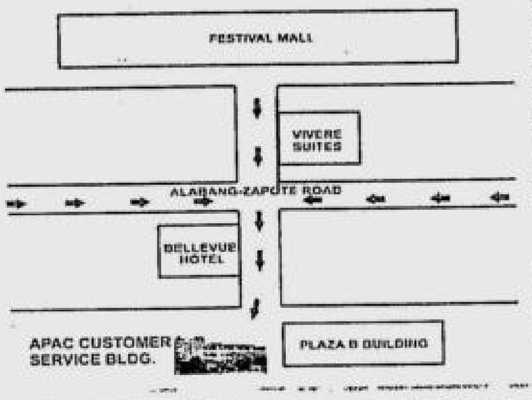

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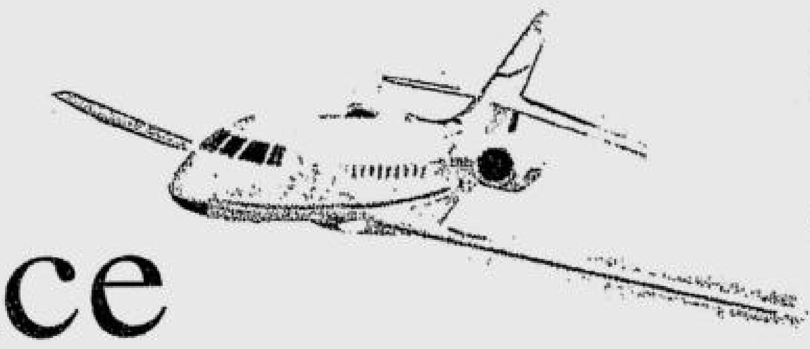

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Customer Service Representatives
for APAC's travel account

QUALIFICATIONS

- Holder of a Bachelor's Degree preferably in Tourism or any related course
- Work experience in the travel, tourism and hospitality industry (e.g. hotel reservations/bookings, airlines, cruise lines, travel agencies)
- PC literate with MS Office Products
- Can type at least 25 wpm
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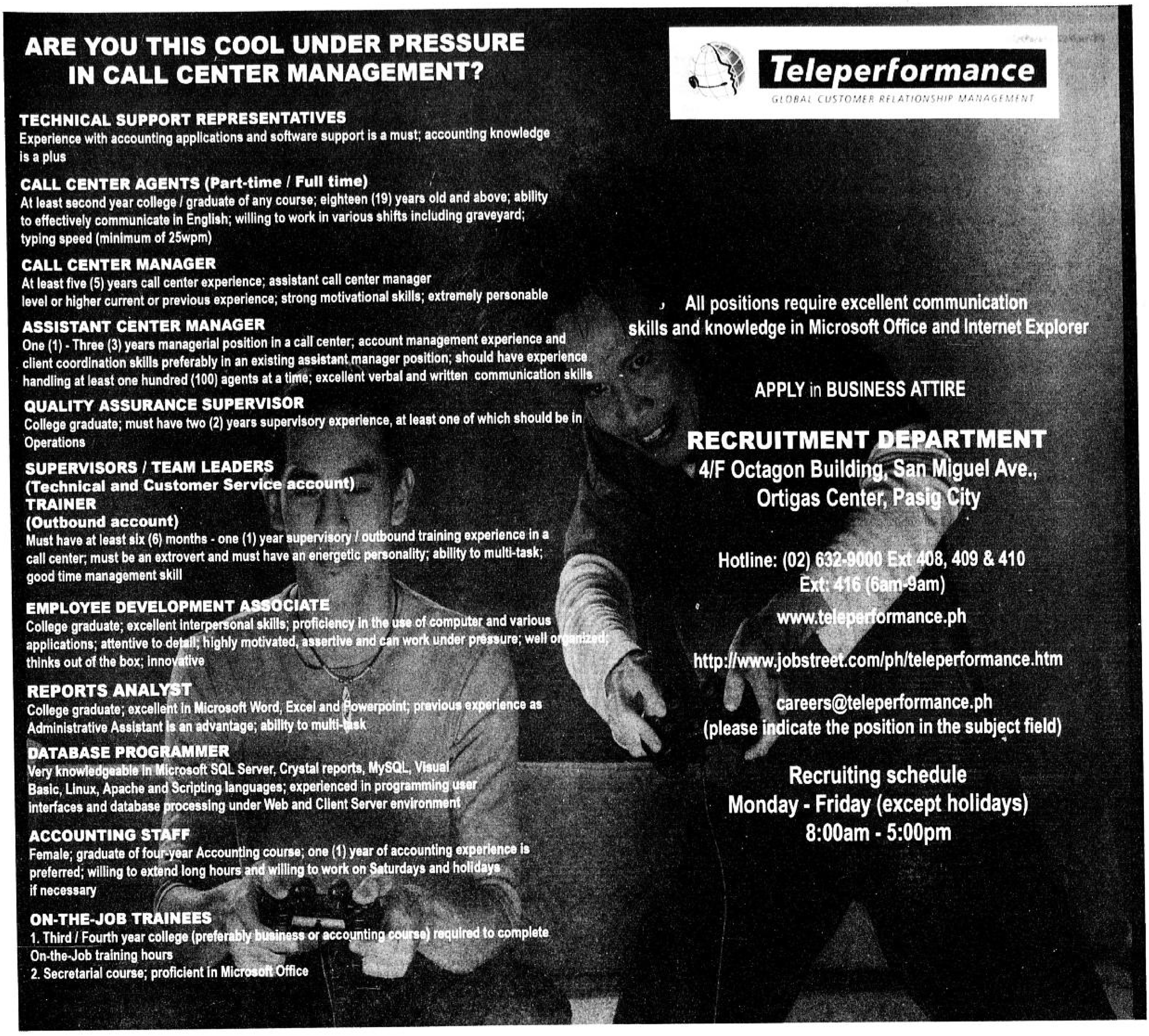

ARE YOU THIS COOL UNDER PRESSURE IN CALL CENTER MANAGEMENT?

TECHNICAL SUPPORT REPRESENTATIVES
Experience with accounting applications and software support is a must; accounting knowledge is a plus

CALL CENTER AGENTS (Part-time / Full time)
At least second year college / graduate of any course; eighteen (19) years old and above; ability to effectively communicate in English; willing to work in various shifts including graveyard; typing speed (minimum of 25wpm)

CALL CENTER MANAGER
At least five (5) years call center experience; assistant call center manager level or higher current or previous experience; strong motivational skills; extremely personable

ASSISTANT CENTER MANAGER
One (1) - Three (3) years managerial position in a call center; account management experience and client coordination skills preferably in an existing assistant manager position; should have experience handling at least one hundred (100) agents at a time; excellent verbal and written communication skills

QUALITY ASSURANCE SUPERVISOR
College graduate; must have two (2) years supervisory experience, at least one of which should be in Operations

SUPERVISORS / TEAM LEADERS
(Technical and Customer Service account)
TRAINER
(Outbound account)
Must have at least six (6) months - one (1) year supervisory / outbound training experience in a call center; must be an extrovert and must have an energetic personality; ability to multi-task; good time management skill

EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE
College graduate; excellent interpersonal skills; proficiency in the use of computer and various applications; attentive to detail; highly motivated, assertive and can work under pressure; well organized; thinks out of the box; innovative

REPORTS ANALYST
College graduate; excellent in Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint; previous experience as Administrative Assistant is an advantage; ability to multi-task

DATABASE PROGRAMMER
Very knowledgeable in Microsoft SQL Server, Crystal reports, MySQL, Visual Basic, Linux, Apache and Scripting languages; experienced in programming user interfaces and database processing under Web and Client Server environment

ACCOUNTING STAFF
Female; graduate of four-year Accounting course; one (1) year of accounting experience is preferred; willing to extend long hours and willing to work on Saturdays and holidays if necessary

ON-THE-JOB TRAINEES
1. Third / Fourth year college (preferably business or accounting course) required to complete On-the-Job training hours
2. Secretarial course; proficient in Microsoft Office

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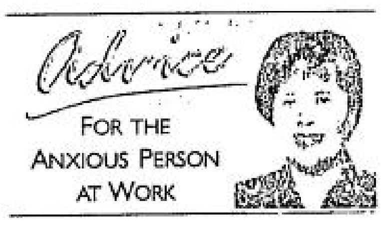
http://www.jobstreet.com/ph/teleperformance.htm

careers@teleperformance.ph
(please indicate the position in the subject field)

Recruiting schedule
Monday - Friday (except holidays)
8:00am - 5:00pm

'I need help to feed disadvantaged children'

By Tita Datu Puangco


Advice
FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

I AM A RETIRED MANILA RTC judge, who for almost 15 years now, has been working for disadvantaged children of Payatas in Quezon City—feeding and educating them and empowering their families to be more productive so they can live with dignity, confidence and self-respect.

Right now, we feed about 1,000 children one nourishing meal of rice topped with vegetables in season, made possible through donations from Rustan's Supermarkets chain of second harvest vegetables, beef bones, bakery products and other food materials, which are no longer attractive to their high-end customers.

The rice is also donated. The cost of our feeding is $0.05 or P2.75 per child per day. We would like to feed 5,000 Payatas children every day for six months to one year. After that, we propose to feed another batch of 5,000 children in the next community. We are also seeking sponsorship for their education at $100 per child per year. In addition, we are providing their parents to have skills and livelihood training so that eventually they can uplift their economic conditions. In other words, we are using the feeding program as a come-on or entry point so we can reach the families of these children.

In order for us to do all these things, we need partners, sponsors, firms, NGOs or foundations who will support our program.

We have two centers in Quezon City, the Soup Kitchen and the Lighthouse Center for Children—four-storey concrete training centers—to let you know that we are not a "fly-by-night" NGO. We are duly licensed by Department of Social Welfare and Development, and accredited by the Quezon City Government.

Thank you very much and I know that our loving and faithful God shall multiply your blessings, graces and favors a thousand fold.

Lorenzo B. Veneracion, President and Executive Trustee

Thank you for your letter. In behalf of all those who benefit from your acts of mercy, I thank you and your team for being guardian angels to the disadvantaged families. I think you are enjoying your retirement years because you give so much of yourself to others.

The challenge of your project is to sustain support over time. We know that Filipinos are very generous and will respond enthusiastically to your appeal. We have hearts that are easily moved, maybe because more than in other countries we see the poor amongst us.

I wish to give three suggestions. These are some of the ways the Bukas Palad Social Centers of the Focolare Movement use to sustain projects and programs for the poor. These are inspirations of the foundress Chiara Lubich.

One is a practice called the "culture of giving." All members believe that things they do not use belong to "Jesus in the neighbor in need." There are enough resources for everyone if we check our consumerist attitude, taking and using only what we need instead of staking up goods and cluttering our cabinets.

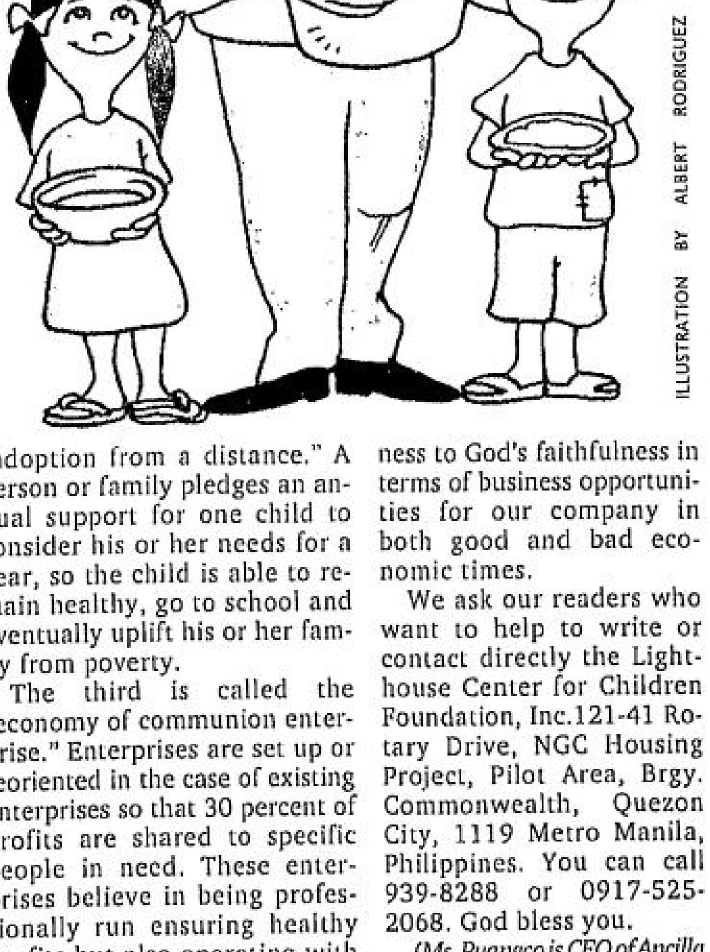


ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Another is a practice called "adoption from a distance." A person or family pledges an annual support for one child to consider his or her needs for a year, so the child is able to remain healthy, go to school and eventually uplift his or her family from poverty.

The third is called the "economy of communion enterprise." Enterprises are set up or reoriented in the case of existing enterprises so that 30 percent of profits are shared to specific people in need. These enterprises believe in being professionally run ensuring healthy profits but also operating with an abiding faith in Providence. The Gospel assures us "give and you shall receive" and guaranteed the "hundred fold." Our company Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting is linked with the Economy of Communion Movement. We are a witness to God's faithfulness in terms of business opportunities for our company in both good and bad economic times.

We ask our readers who want to help to write or contact directly the Lighthouse Center for Children Foundation, Inc.121-41 Rotary Drive, NGC Housing Project, Pilot Area, Brgy. Commonwealth, Quezon City, 1119 Metro Manila, Philippines. You can call 939-8288 or 0917-525-2068. God bless you.

(Ms. Puangco is CEO of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting, a training and consulting company specializing in strategy management, leading change, human resource systems, leadership and enterprise training. Call in your feedback at 892-2895, 892-2896 or 892-2898.)

'How do I know if I am ...

From page 4★★★

For people who want to know their ideal jobs, here is a suggested process:

1. List down your interests, your inclinations, and the things you always want to do.
2. List down your skills, knowledge areas, and talents.
3. Find out the strengths of your character, and what people say you are good at.
4. Look into your past and see, what successes you have had or where you were happy when you were doing things that created value.
5. Project yourself in your mind 5 years or 10 years forward. Imagine that you can do anything you want in life—then see what kind of an ideal job you are doing, the ideal people you are with, the ideal salary and perks you are enjoying, the ideal achievements you are having, etc.

Do not limit your imagination to jobs that are readily within your reach. Just for a moment, think that all jobs are open. There are jobs that you want and there are those that you don't want, even if they pay you like crazy. Imagine the job that you want to do, hour after hour, day after day, year after year. Imagine that ideal job that you really want so much to do, so that even if you are filthy rich now, you'd still want to do that job. Even if you don't get paid for doing it, you'd still do that job. What kind of job is that?

Passion

When you are able to find that job, there is a great chance that you will enjoy doing it. There is a greater chance that you'll get paid more for it. You will be in a very ideal state—you do what you love, and you love what you do.

Some people call it "passion." Most successful people have found their passion. Some even believe that their passion is also their purpose in life. Some people think that this is also their dream. When people are doing their passion, which they believe is their purpose in life, which is also their lifelong dream, this is the greatest collision in the whole universe.

Nothing on earth can prevent a person who has this wonderful confluence of events from succeeding in whatever he or she does. Nothing can prevent him or her from taking into possession anything that he or she is justly entitled to.

Career preparation

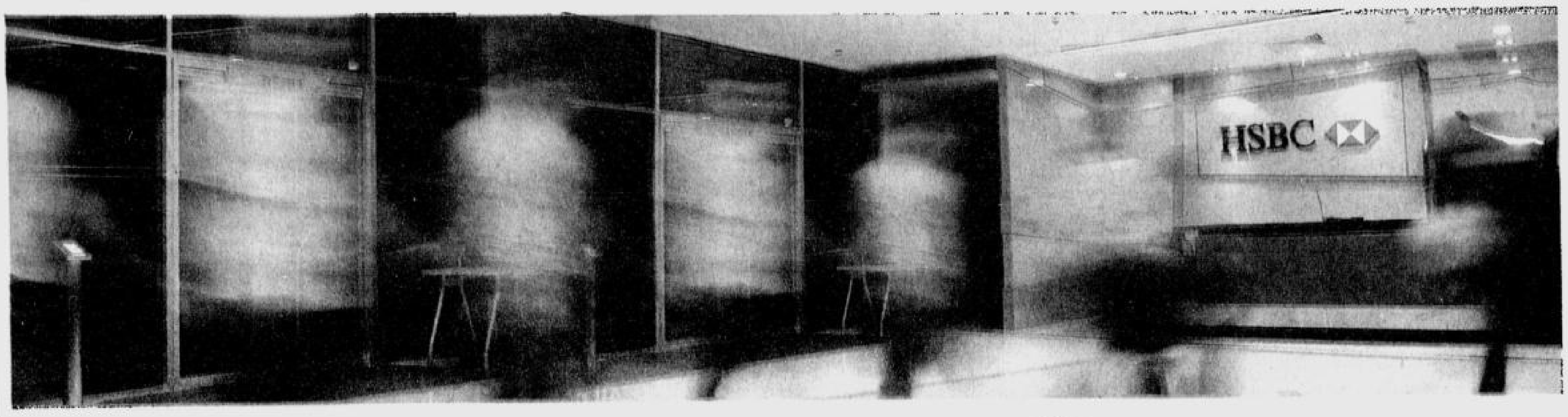
Turbulent times and changes of greater magnitudes that will tremendously affect careers are coming. This is the best time to prepare yourself to be able to take on opportunities that can make a difference in your life. But career success is never free.

You will have to invest a lot of time and effort into increasing your capabilities to take on better jobs. The road to career success is not paved like the NLEX—it is bumpy because there is less room at the top. As a new entrant to the world of work, you might even make a few false starts before you get on the right track towards your ideal job.

But truly, getting your ideal job starts with sitting down, seriously knowing yourself and what you want in life and in your career. When you have finally determined what you want, then the real journey just begins. Usually, ideal jobs don't just happen or go after you. You go after them—before others do.

(Public service announcement: There will be a grand reunion of all alumni of the University of Nueva Caceres, Naga City in September 2006. Alumni in Metro Manila can e-mail me their contact details so that the Organizing Committee can contact them.)

(Mr. Cecilia is the president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, a human resource consulting firm. He was the president of Personnel Management Association of the Philippines or PMAP in 1999. His career books are available at popular bookstores. Send feedback to ernie_cecilia@yahoo.com.)



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Job security and career advancement are the reasons why we joined HSBC Electronic Data Processing (Philippines) Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc. We work in one of several HSBC Group Service Centers around the world and only serve HSBC customers. Working for HSBC Electronic Data Processing (Philippines) Inc. has given us the opportunity to be part of an international financial services company with operations in 77 countries and territories and a worldwide staff of more than 250,000. We are part of an organization that provides extensive training and coaching, excellent facilities, attractive incentives and a great working environment.

If you're highly motivated and intent on pursuing a career in one of the fastest growing industries, come join our new and still expanding team.

We are accepting applications for the following positions

- **Customer Care and Sales Associates**
- **Spanish-speaking Care Associates and Team Leaders**
- **Mandarin and Cantonese-speaking Associates**
- **Collections Associates**
- **Workforce Analysts**
- **Managers for Operations**

We welcome

- **Fresh graduates**
- **Customer service staff looking for a new and exciting career**
- **Experienced call center agents**
- **Those looking for a challenging job with attractive prospects and rewards**

We require

- Excellent English language skills and an openness to working shifting schedules

You may apply via e-mail to **servicecenterjobs@hsbc.com.ph** or personally visit any one of our two sites (Alabang or Makati). We welcome you to our **Open House**, Monday to Saturday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, at our Alabang or Makati site for **one-day processing. Get a job offer the same day.**

Alabang site:
HSBC Electronic Data Processing (Philippines) Inc.
5150 North Bridgeway corner Northgate Avenue
Northgate Cyberzone, Filinvest Corporate City
Alabang, Muntinlupa City 1781

Makati site:
HSBC Electronic Data Processing (Philippines) Inc.
39th Floor PBCom Tower
6795 Ayala Avenue corner V. A. Rufino Street
Makati City 1226

Note: Walk-in applicants must bring a copy of their resume, one 2x2 picture and photocopies of their last two payslips.
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"I am proud to work for an HSBC Group Service Center (GSC). The environment is professional and the service standards are high." -- Carlo

"I appreciate the fact that HSBC rewards employees on the basis of a meritocracy system. I worked hard and now I'm a Performance Coach. Who knows, maybe within the year I can be a Team Leader." -- Christopher

"This is the best center to be part of because here it's not just the numbers that matter." - Easther

"I knew nothing about inbound operations because I handled outbound calls in my previous job. The trainers and subject matter experts here took care of us and now I'm performing very well." – Jo

HSBC

SM

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Mall of Asia

needs

Office Assistants

* Accounting * Treasury * Customer Service*
(For Mall of Asia)

- female, not over 25 years old
- graduate of Accountancy, Communication Arts or any 4-year business course
- personable, fast learner and willing to work on extended hours

Cashiers / Checkers

- female, 18-25 years old
- at least college level

Sales Clerks

- female, 18-25 years old
- high school graduate
- at least 5 feet 2 inches in height

Sales Utility Clerks/ Stock Clerks

- male, 18-25 years old
- high school graduate
- at least 5 feet 6 inches in height

Interested parties may apply personally
on November 7-9, 2005, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at:

SM Shoemart
SM Corporate Office
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Bay City, Pasay City

Please bring bio-data, 2 pcs. 2 x 2 colored picture with white background, SSS Number, TIN (if available). For female applicants, please come in blouse and skirt. For male applicants, come in slacks and polo.

Winrock International
Putting Ideas to Work

Alliance for Mindanao and Multi-Regional Off-Grid Renewable Energy (AMORE 2) Program

Chief of Party

Winrock International is seeking a candidate to lead the implementation of the **Alliance for Mindanao and Multi-Regional Off-Grid Renewable Energy (AMORE 2) Program.**

The AMORE 2 program supports electrification of rural communities using renewable energy systems in Mindanao, Philippines, with a special focus on community and social preparation, training and technical assistance, and renewable energy project development, installation and operation. The partners in the Alliance are the US Agency for International Development (USAID), Mirant Philippines, the Philippine Department of Energy, the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), and Winrock International.

The position will be based in Manila, with extensive travel throughout the Mindanao region.

The AMORE 2 COP will be responsible for: managing implementation of the program work plan; serving as liaison with USAID / Philippines, Alliance partners, and key collaborators; overseeing performance of program staff, subcontractors, and consultants; ensuring completion of required reports and deliverables on time and within budget; assuming program budget and financial accountability; and coordinating with Winrock headquarters on technical, managerial, financial, and administrative issues.

Interested candidates should meet all or most of the following requirements:

☐ a university degree in engineering, rural development, management, or business administration, or similar field, preferably at a graduate or post-graduate level;
☐ 15 years project implementation experience in rural development;
☐ thorough understanding of Philippine energy sector issues, including renewable energy-based rural electrification;
☐ experience in designing and implementing community organization, social preparation, and training programs in rural areas;
☐ prior experience as USAID Chief of Party or analogous management position in a project or program of similar scope;
☐ proven leadership and management skills;
☐ ability to work in a fast-paced environment, under very tight performance schedules;
☐ ability to manage a very diverse group of professionals and technicians and communicate well with rural communities;
☐ commitment to AMORE alliance goals of empowering communities and improving lives of people in the ARMM; and
☐ excellent written and oral communication skills both in English and Filipino.

Applications that include cover letter, resumé, salary history and references should be sent to jobs@winrock.org and / or P.O. Box 12736 Ortigas Center, Pasig City by November 25.

Please visit www.winrock.org and www.amore.org .ph to learn more about Winrock International and the AMORE Program.

PEOPLE at WORK

E-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph.

Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Text us your feedback: inquirer paw name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

‘How do I know if I am in the right job?’

I AM A 23-YEAR-OLD EMployee in a relatively small (70 employees) company- owned and run by a foreigner and his Filipino family. I graduated from a marketing course in the university belt a year or so ago, but I am now doing an administrative job.

The pay is good, but I don't seem to have the motivation to give it my best. I am not sure if I still want to look for my ideal job. Definitely, I do not see myself retiring in this job or even doing this job for the next 5 or 10 years. Frankly, I don't seem to know what I really want out of my career.

Is this usual for a new employee to sometimes feel lost? What should I do to have a sense of direction in my career? How do I know if I am in the right job? I just want to have a great career that can give me the best things in life.

Babe in the Woods

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Ernie Cecilia

Some people are blessed to find their ideal jobs early in their career. Others are about to retire from their lifelong jobs and still fervently wish to find their ideal jobs, perhaps half cursing between the teeth, "Here I am, 64, and still I don't know what to do when I grow up." (See Chapter 13 of my book, "How to Keep Your Job," 2000, p. 205.)

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

The asphalt jungle is cruel. You almost get nothing unless you go after it—including a great career. I remember how J. William Fullbright talked about destiny many years ago when the earth had only two billion inhabitants. He said, "Nature—pitiless in a pitiless universe— is certainly not concerned with the survival of any of the two billion people now inhabiting the earth. Hence, our destiny, with the aid of God, remains in our hands."

Now, more than ever, more opportunities and possibilities exist for people with enough ambition and resolve to succeed in their personal and career lives. If early in your career you are able to understand what you want, and you go for it, there is practically no career goal that you cannot achieve. On the other hand, if you become just like the millions of employees plodding along aimlessly with the crowd, you will likely send me another e-mail with the same problem 20 years from now.

No new problems

Last month, I received text messages from a high school classmate of many decades ago. He asked my help to find a job for his son who did not finish college. I reckon his parents must have had the same problem with my classmate. I am not sure, but his grandparents might have had the same problem, too.

Sometimes, I really believe that there are no new problems in this world. We just seem naïve about the natural law of cause and effect. Tough luck, my classmate would say. "Insanity," I would have said. It's not in the dictionary, but it means "doing the same things over and over and expecting different results."

Blessed are you to realize this concern early in your career. Knowing what you want in your career is a great first step to having a great career. Yogi Berra said, "If you don't know where to go, you could end up elsewhere."

I also wrote in one of my books, "If you don't know where you want to go, no road will take you there." For the longest time, I used to do corporate HR in a few large multinationals (I still do it now, but as a consultant.) I found out that many people who complained about stagnant careers do not really know what they want to make out of their careers. They simply complained that they are not moving, or worse, they had a triple bypass (they've been bypassed thrice for promotion.)

'HOW/P.2★★★

INNOVATING BRAND 'YOU'

Escape from the 'box'

By Regina Galang Reyes
People at Work editor

INNOVATION AS DEFINED BY Merriam-Webster is "the introduction of something new." However, innovation in the workplace and in business, involves not merely "introducing something new" but must mean introducing something that has a value, a significant positive impact on the workplace and in the business. This holds true when this is applied to innovating brand "you."

Living in a box

But the thing is, more often than not, changing can be a difficult thing to do. Since childhood, people may already have typecast you: your parents may have regarded you as the less intelligent son or daughter, your teacher may have classified you as one of the shy ones in class, your boss may have appraised you as one who can do the work but doesn't have much initiative. People may regard you as good at only one thing and not good for anything else. In other words, people have placed you in a "box."

You may have lived in a "box" for a long time; you have lived your life according to other people's perceptions and expectations whether or not these are aligned to your true self. Probably, you may even have thought you are in fact the box, that you are what people perceive and expect you to be. You may have accepted this situation even though being boxed in has limited your growth professionally and personally.

In this situation, it is hard to think out of the box or even get out of the box unless something drastic happens and you get "whacked on the side of the head" by problems or failures you encounter at work or at home.

But the good side of problems or failures is that they can get help you get out of the box. And once you do, you can explore the whole universe outside of the box and inside you.

Breaking out

Take for example Leo. Tall, lanky and with glasses, he looked like your typical nerd next door. He was intelligent, having gotten a cum laude in college. He landed a job in a prestigious company after working for two companies where he tangled with his bosses. Now ensconced in his third company, his talent in computers was being utilized as a staff assistant. He was so good at his job that people "boxed" him in that job. And when he started applying for a glamorous position in marketing in the company, he got rejected because he did not fit the marketing stereotype of a polished, outgoing person. Challenged, he resigned and joined another company as a marketing trainee with practically no improvement in salary and benefits. Today, he is a successful marketing executive, a computer geek no longer.

Another example is Gloria. My consultant friend and I attended a seminar on human resources management. The speaker at that seminar was Gloria, a retired HR executive from a well-known company. We learned a lot from her seminar, which was spiced with a lot of humor and interesting stories. She was undoubtedly a polished speaker and resource person. My consultant friend told me that years ago, she knew Gloria and she was not at all that interesting as a speaker. She marveled at how Gloria, after retirement, had metamorphosed into a brilliant and much sought after speaker.

In control of life

The young Leo and the mature Gloria are examples that people, no matter where they are in life, get "boxed" in all the time by others. Leo's superiors thought Leo was a geek forever and could not transform himself into a savvy marketing professional. Gloria's colleagues thought that she would always be the doddering elderly executive who would fade into oblivion after retirement. Well, people who "boxed" them in with their perceptions were dead wrong. Whether you are young and struggling to begin your career or you are old and seemingly at the end of your career, you can escape from the "box," by changing, reinventing and innovating yourself.

So, how did they do it? Leo and Gloria used the first innovation strategy listed in last week's article: *Realize and accept that you can reinvent yourself. There are many ways to add to your knowledge, acquire new skills, improve your attitudes and behavior, and change your habits and lifestyle for the better. Changing yourself is within your "circle of influence."*

Your mindsets determine your personal reality. If you think you can no longer change, then you definitely won't. But, if you think you can change, then there is a chance that you will. The good thing is, you are in control of your mindsets, your perceptions and paradigms, your thinking. Therefore, you are in control of your behavior and actions.

Exploring potentials

Leo and Gloria knew that even though people had "boxed" them in with their perceptions, they could develop a better self-image, one that would propel them out of the present and into a better future. They knew that they could change and so they did.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Leo assessed himself and found that if he discarded his eyeglasses for contact lenses, changed his T-shirts for long-sleeved polo shirts, wore a tie instead of a baseball cap, he could change people's perceptions. He discovered that if he communicated his ideas more often, people would listen and consider his views. And the more he was able to express himself, the more that people looked at him as an outgoing person rather than a shy one.

On the other hand, Gloria knew that she was regarded more as an efficient manager rather than a brilliant speaker. Shortly before retirement, she started attending seminars of popular speakers and studied their presentation and speaking styles. Gloria used her mastery of the field and her newly acquired presentation skills to develop learning sessions that she could deliver with confidence and style.

Leo and Gloria assessed their knowledge, skills, attitudes and habits, reaffirmed their strengths and improved on their areas of weaknesses. In so doing, they escaped from the box and explored the vast opportunities of their personal potential.

The lesson here is that if you want to succeed in a "borderless workplace," then you must first break free of your perceptual boundaries that keep you from innovating brand "you."

(Send feedback to rreyes@inquirer.com.ph.*)*

Advice for the Anxious Person at Work p. 2★★★

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Ready to lose your job?

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

TRAGEDY IS UNPREDICTABLE . WE REALLY NEVER KNOW when "doomsday" in the workplace will come. This kind of "doomsday" could mean any unfortunate development, from simply being fired to suffering a stroke that debilitates us for life. When it strikes, it just strikes—and it is no respecter of persons or powers. Not even stable multinational companies or mighty global conglomerates are exempt from this law. Remember 9/11?

But although tragedy is unpredictable, its causes and effects are controllable. We may not know what will happen when, but we can certainly learn to prepare for it and to handle it when it comes. We cannot foresee when or how we'll lose our job, for example, but we can arm ourselves against the causes and effects of job loss. This is how I would apply the lesson in today's Gospel—preparedness—to the workplace situation.

Preparing oneself for job loss means: equipping ourselves with all the skills at our command; utilizing all these skills according to the highest principles and ideals; nurturing the right attitudes towards our work. When all three are present, we will always be assured of work—and not just work but honorable work, because all three require and develop self-knowledge, and it is self-knowledge, guided by a Superior Mind (for Christians that may be Jesus), that in turn gives us security in earning a living. Once we realize that working is not just a matter of prestige or a way to material comfort but above all being the best of what we are, we can be free of anxieties that hinder creativity. And we can stand on firm ground, ready for "the day or the hour" whose arrival no man can foretell. (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)

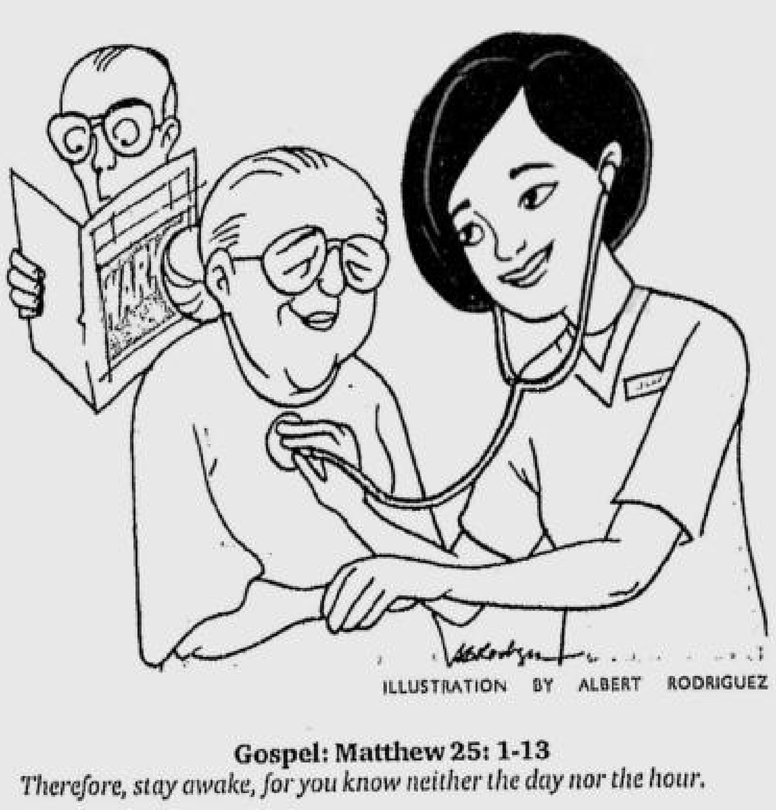


ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Gospel: Matthew 25: 1-13
Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Preparedness in life

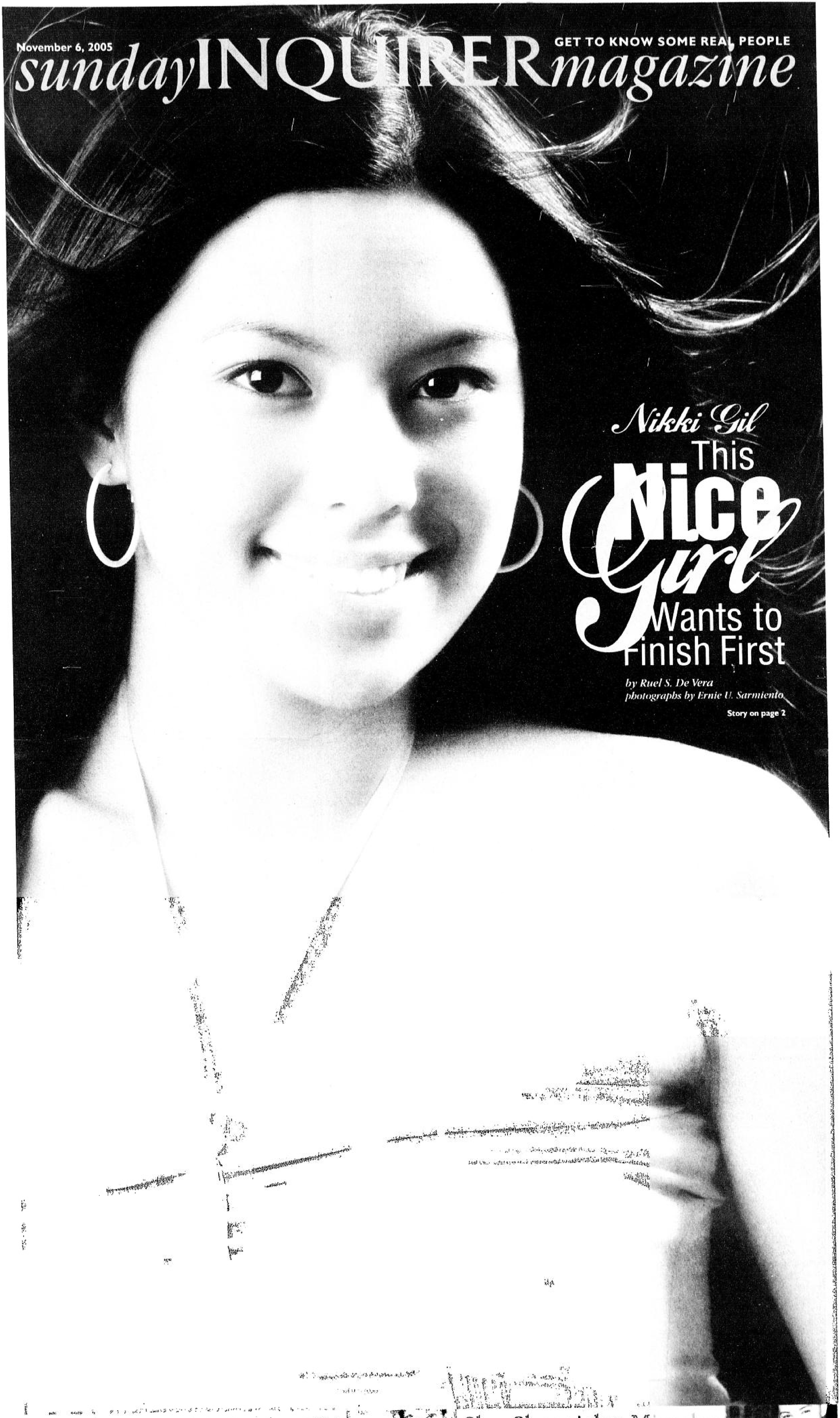
By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

NEWS ABOUT DISASTERS AND WARS, WHICH HAPPEN in various parts of the world destroying thousands of lives and devastating towns and cities, make many of us wonder what after all is the meaning of life and this world. There is always the possibility that everything you gain during an entire life of work will go to naught with just one destructive stroke of a natural calamity. These scary realities in life and in the world make us ask, "Are we prepared to face the end?" "What can we do to prepare for such inevitable conclusion of this all worldly activity, including our work?"

Jesus' words in today's Gospel remind us to "stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." Staying awake could mean that we work in such a way that we prepare for the end of our life on earth and for that which is beyond. This could mean that we insure ourselves not only with the benefits of our work such as the health and accident insurance, pension and retirement benefits, and other packages which come along with our job compensation; but we work also in such a way as to merit for ourselves spiritual values, which will last even after the end of our life and work.

The added spiritual values to our working comes from our faith in the Lord Jesus who as a man, worked like us humans, and as a God, has transformed human work into something divine—as a source of human sanctification and salvation. As believers, we can unite and offer the pains and sufferings we bear in our work with the Passion and Death of Jesus Who gained salvation for all mankind. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net)

November 6, 2005
*sunday*INQUIRER*magazine*
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE



Nikki Gil
This Nice *Girl* Wants to Finish First

by Ruel S. De Vera
photographs by Ernie U. Sarmiento

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A Fil-Am Rookie in the PBA, *p.3*

She Chronicles Miracles, *p.6*

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WELL-TOLD JOURNEY

Praise God for Fanny A. Garcia and her son ("Pages From a Mother's Heart, **SIM**, 23 October 2005). I believe it's wonderful that she is no longer an atheist but now believes in God and prayer. Perhaps that's a story to be told as well; that through traveling the journey with her son, she came to know God! I am the mother of a 14-year-old autistic son and I can relate to her story. What a journey it is! Please know that Psalm 139: 13-16 has always helped me. May God continue to bless you and your son. To God be the glory!

BEVERLY D. NELSON
Dallas, Texas
goodenise@yahoo.com

"A VERY PRIVATE PERSON"

Ms Doyo,

Two parts of your article "Pages from A Mother's Heart" have already impacted on me personally.

1. I have been asked to confirm if I was/am a "socialist" (a death sentence in this country).

2. I have personally received calls asking if my personal land line (924-3553) is the phone number of New Horizons.

I am a very private person and I really appreciate it if people help keep it that way.

ROLI TALAMPAS
Via e-mail

GREETINGS, ROLI

So sorry about the telephone numbers. I mixed up the numbers and wrote your home phone numbers instead of New Horizons'. Carelessness or synchronicity? I hope those who need help would find their way through the dark through your numbers.

As to Erick's name, Fanny said you chose Frederick (Friedrich Engels) as second name for Erick. For *consuelo*, at least I didn't remind readers that Engels is almost always paired with Marx—as in Marx und Engels.

On the whole, I think the article impacted (to use your word) positively. Again sorry if your phone kept ringing and your political color was suddenly being figured out.

Hope to meet you one day. —*Ma. Ceres P. Doyo*

MORE CLARIFICATIONS

Ms Doyo,

A smart reader of my mail would surely get my drift, namely, I didn't find the impact of your article on me "positive." Now, I have to explain what I had been doing to give my autistic son a second name such as Frederick (Engels). Nay, I have to receive calls on my personal land line and to explain to the caller that my phone isn't New Horizons.

To give you a better insight—it's my eldest sister who suggested that I honor one of my favorite writers, whose books line my modest collection, including the great ones of the political spectrum. It was in that context that Erick had to come from Frederick. I admired Engels for his friendship and support to Marx, his unselfish, unassuming and thoughtful ways, and his insightful arguments about dialectics and history—the making of the bourgeois intellectual who sided with the poor.

I don't solicit *consuelos* (comfort) from anyone. I just want to be left alone with my son. If people would want to get in, as I indicated to you over the phone, it should be in the context of professional expertise and assistance. As always, I try to earn a decent income to pay for the fees rendered in behalf of my son. I try to earn some money by teaching and not by prying into people's lives and placing them at some risk or discomfort; and, I don't sell tickets to a burlesque show of my life.

We don't need to meet. We've met many times before and I know who you are. That you don't know that indicates, as far as I am concerned, that I'd rather keep to my solitude and industry.

ROLI TALAMPAS
Via e-mail

Erick's mom received a lot of positive feedback. That should be a reason to celebrate.—*Ma. Ceres P. Doyo*

FINDING SUPPORT

I was very much interested in the story of Peter Mallonga ("Like A Tornado, He Can't Keep Still—And That's What Got Him Places," **SIM**, 30 October 2005), not in the least because I know several people who exhibit AD/HD and ADD symptoms. I was disappointed therefore to find that there wasn't even a footnote on how to reach the AD/HD Society of the Philippines within the article. May I please request **SIM** or Ms. Joy Rojas, the writer of the article, for the contact numbers of the Society if they have it? I have been on the lookout for an AD/HD and ADD support group for quite some time now.

NADIA
naudiyuh@hotmail.com

You may contact the AD/HD Society secretariat at the Center for Social Policy, Ateneo de Manila at tel. no. 927-3463.—**Ed.**

Nikki

...from page 1

T'S irresistible, this sweet, sweet concoction: the frothy idea of free soda and a pretty face. It is the story of Nikki Gil, a simple lass who gained fame in a commercial that had her walking down a street in jeans and a T-shirt, armed only with miraculously multiplying Coca-Cola bottles.

Nikki is the latest avatar in a Filipino pop culture tradition: the fairy tale of the face finding fame in a TV commercial. But she's become more than that. She's turned out to be something of an agreeable anachronism: a good girl in a mad, mad, mad showbiz world. "I definitely don't want to compromise my principles. I want to have a career out of being myself and if people don't want to accept that, then okay," she says with delicate determination.

Throughout all this, it is easy to forget that, because of her amazingly well-proportioned features, Nikki is still a teenager who's only turned 18, confesses to having a messy room and has trouble getting anywhere on time. "No matter how many times I say to myself not to mind what people say, it does matter to me," she says. "I like teasing people a lot but when it's my turn, I'm *pikon.*" Just when you think that Nikki is too good to be true, you find out other amazing things about her: she was the valedictorian of her high school batch in Shekinah Christian Training Center in Parañaque, and she used to bake awesome oatmeal cookies.

Then there's that sublime stillness, a measured mode of behavior that makes Nikki seem older and more mature than she actually is. Being a model for Coca-Cola comes with its requisite demands. "There's a morality clause in my contract," she explains. "But it works to our advantage. We're not putting up a front. That's how I really am. Wholesome."

Career risk

The challenge for Nikki is to maintain her image without stumbling into bland and saccharine territory. When the most daring thing about you is your prodigious collection of sleeveless tops, that's a formidable task. Yet in this gossip-hungry and neophyte-devouring showbiz ecosystem, staying wholesome, and the very avoidance of risks, is a rather severe career risk by itself. It makes her decision to stay the straight and narrow path more gutsy.

Remember too that this is a girl of whom the worst rumor circulated was that she's the daughter of, uh, bizarre presidential aspirant-turned-novelty act Eddie Gil. But no relation whatsoever. Nikki is quite conscious of how people view her. "I used to read stuff about me and I would take it badly. I'd cry. But I learned that there's no pleasing everybody, and now I realize how blessed I am that I don't get that kind of intrigue."

In the interim, this AB English Literature sophomore has accepted the fact that wading in the potentially tumultuous waters of show biz means extra academic footwork so she can stay on track at the Ateneo de Manila University. "It's pretty hard learning how to study in the car and learning how to squeeze in reading time between takes. It's been quite difficult." Nikki had entered school thinking of becoming a lawyer. While she no longer wants that, she is determined to complete her Ateneo degree. "If we could strike a happy balance between the two, that would be most ideal."

She is certainly keeping very, very busy. She had continued her assault on pop consciousness with her self-titled album under EMI Philippines and a sweety-sweety radio single, *"Sakayan ng Jeep,"* a remake of a Bodjie Dasig song originally sang by Lani Misalucha. They had begun work on the album this summer with a three-year, two-album deal. "I enjoy singing but I've never really pictured myself doing it as a living," she says.

Very shortly after her Coke ad began airing, Nikki literally became a TV regular by appearing in a lineup of ABS-CBN shows that unapologetically took full advantage of the girl's shampoo commercial-quality locks. The life of the peripatetic performer isn't unknown to Nikki, as she's doing a lot of shows right now. She's currently pushing the second single from her album, "If I Keep My Heart Out of Sight."

Yet if one were to believe Nikki, she wasn't the one destined for fame, but her younger sister Dani. "She started earlier and is really a professional," she says of her sister, who's a veteran voice talent. Monica Pauline Santos Gil, in fact, just turned 18 last August 22. Mom Julie runs a company that churns out corporate giveaways when she's not managing Nikki's time. Dad Dino is a businessman.

Though it was the Coke ad that shifted her squarely into public property, it wasn't Nikki's first exposure. She's been modeling since she was 10, and between that time and last year's Coke frenzy, Nikki has appeared in spots for RCBC, Nestle, Sunsilk and Modess, among others. "You know how it is in advertising," she recalls, explaining that an aunt working in a major advertising agency got her for those earlier appearances. "One thing's for sure, I did want to be a model, but not as a professional," Nikki says. "Just as something on the side."

Difficult phase

Julie says that another of her daughter's ads proved to be pivotal for the young talent. She went through an acne phase, something that every teenager goes through. "We went to dermatologists and everything," the mother recalls. "When the acne disappeared, Nikki wanted to do an ad just to validate herself. Just one, and that was the Sunsilk ad," says Julie.

Not every high school valedictorian gets a chance at stardom, but gorgeous Coke Girl and aspiring songstress Nikki Gil is taking her best shot without compromising her wholesome charm. Now that's worth watching

Pretty and profound: Nikki knows there's life beyond the autograph signings

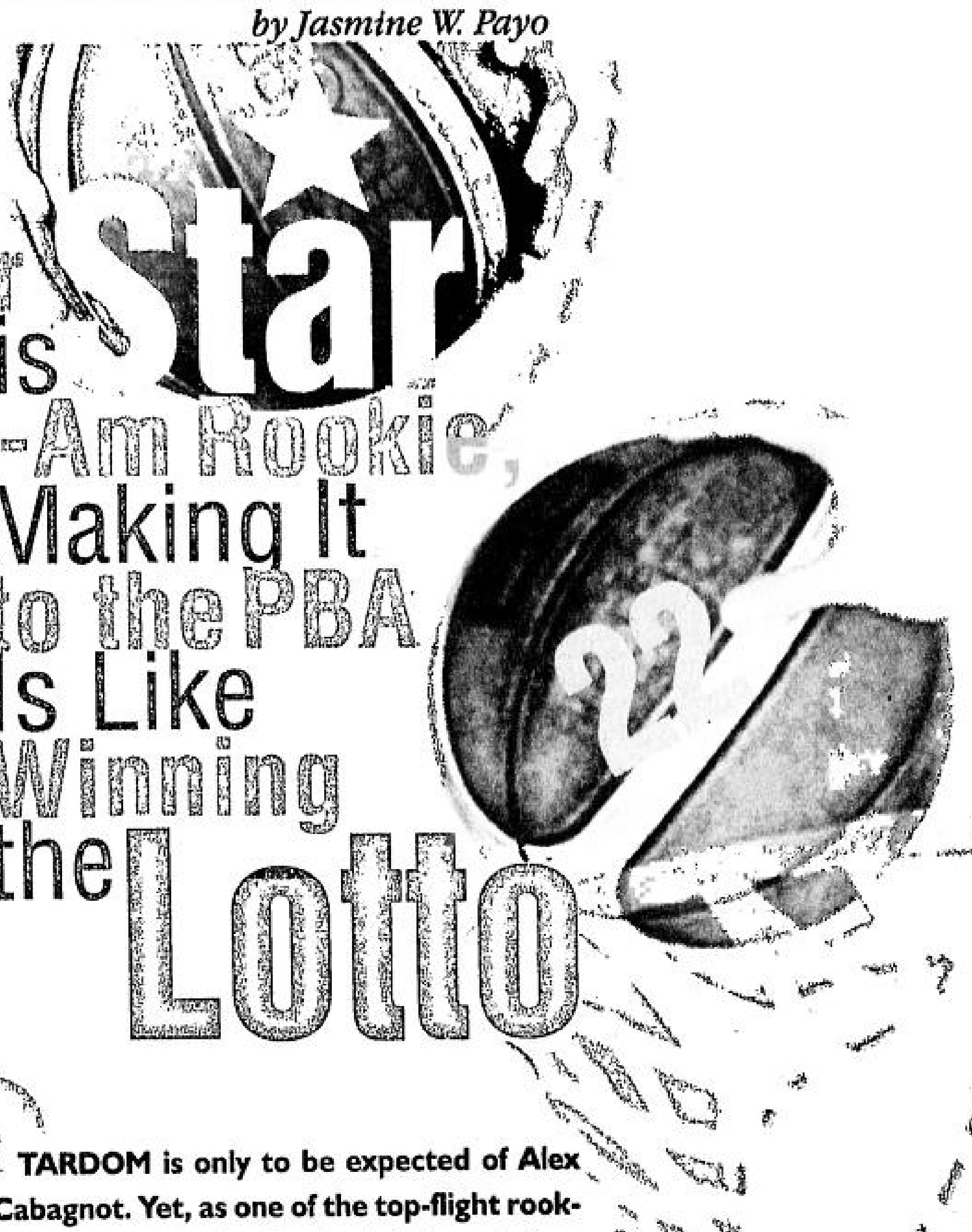
Right after that, Nikki's confidence would be boosted further when a talent caster, who attended the same church as the Gils, asked if she wanted to audition for the Coke ad. "I had nothing to lose anyway, so we tried it out." She never expected the runaway recognition that came with the ad, but not everyone was caught by surprise. Right before the shoot, Julie told Nikki, "After this, your life will never be the same again."

It actually took a while for everything to sink in and events only began to get more frenzied. When the offers started coming in, it was time for a decision. "My dad was really hesitant and apprehensive about me getting into the business, which is natural. The deal was that I would stay in school and my mom would have a say in my schedule," Nikki says. "ASAP '05" quickly recruited her as a host, and soon followed her regular roles on Myx and "Breakfast."

Julie points out that Nikki had always been studious and extraordinarily focused for a teen. Ninety-

To page 7

by Jasmine W. Payo



For This Star Fil-Am Rookie, Making It to the PBA Is Like Winning the Lotto

STARDOM is only to be expected of Alex Cabagnot. Yet, as one of the top-flight rookies in the Philippine Basketball Association, the Filipino-American point guard is still learning how to deal with high expectations.

"I think it's all hype," insists Cabagnot. "I was never the best player on the team. But I know my role. I just do the little things, and I guess people notice it."

Cabagnot may have chosen the low-profile approach, but the ultra-confidence typically flashed by Fil-Am players is certainly seen once he steps on court.

"I just gave him the ball, and he went and carried us home," said coach Alfrancis Chua after his new ward scored 13 of Sta. Lucia's final 17 points for a 92-88 win over crowd favorite, Ginebra.

It was a spectacular feat for a freshman playing only his second game in the PBA. In fact, basketball observers had to remind themselves that Cabagnot is only 22, the youngest player in the league.

And it might even take a while before the 6'1" cager gets used to all the attention, because amusingly, Cabagnot doesn't want to stand out that much. Or maybe, not just yet.

"People might think that this Fil-Am came here, and *akala mo kung sino siya*" (who does he think he is), he says.

Very Pinoy

Born on Dec. 8, 1982, the second child of Allan Cabagnot and Jo del Rosario grew up in "a very Pinoy" household in Los Angeles, California in the United States.

"I left the Philippines when I was eight, but I definitely knew the Filipino culture. There are a lot of Filipinos in Eagle Rock, California. I also have a lot of cousins in the area," says Cabagnot.

"I stayed with my mom, who has her own family now. But my dad was just across the street," he continues. "We were okay. My mom takes care of mentally disabled people in a facility in Southern California. My dad is a poker dealer."

It was a pretty comfortable life, Cabagnot claims. And it was just all about school and basketball games for him. "I've never done anything much in my life but play basketball," he says. "I picked it up from my older cousins. I started out very young, just tagging along. When I was 11, I played for a traveling All-Filipino team called Hoop Town. That program prepares you to play varsity basketball.

"Over the summer, I'd do basketball camps for kids. A coach will pay you to watch the kids, stuff like that. I was also a scorekeeper and they give you like $10 a game. I never had a McDonald's job or a school job. I was either playing basketball or video games."

But clearly, it was time well spent. When Cabagnot reached high school, he had established himself as one of the best Filipino players in California.

Honors came, including the All City Most Valuable Player and the All Conference awards. Yet Cabagnot maintains that a lot of setbacks also came with it.

"It was a struggle like everything else. I started at the bottom. In my freshman year in ninth grade, we lost a lot. As I grew older and more mature at the high school level, we started winning," he recounts.

Cabagnot also felt proud when he eclipsed the record of Ginebra's Mark Caguioa, who suited up for Eagle Rock High School's varsity team.

"Mark was one of the best Filipino players in LA. I got the same awards he got. I think that's why they compare us even if our game is totally different. But we surpassed Mark's team record. We went to the finals in my senior year. Although we lost to a high-powered team, we went farther than Mark's team." he says.

Cabagnot's winning ways continued in college in the NCAA Division II as the starting point guard in the University of Hawaii-Hilo's championship run in 2004.

Cloud Nine

"UH-Hilo never won a conference championship in, like, 20 years, so I was on cloud nine when we won the championship last year. It didn't matter what I did. We won as a team," he says.

Cabagnot got the attention of Filipino basketball scouts, who quickly booked him a slot in the PBA Rookie Draft last August.

"I wasn't expecting much. I was just hoping a team would pick me," he says.

But as it turned out, several squads were eyeing him. Cabagnot ended up as the the No.2 overall draft pick, next to another Fil-Am sensation, Anthony Washington.

"I thought I was going to be picked 19th or something, because nobody has seen me. I had a feeling that I was going to be a free agent. It all came as a surprise," he recalls.

But what could have been a good deal became a controversial start for Sta Lucia's new arrival.

A few days after getting a three-year offer worth P8.5 million, Cabagnot suddenly flew back to the US to finish his studies—without informing anyone.

The move got everyone fuming mad, from Sta. Lucia team officials (who thought of cutting him from the team) to his agent (who dropped him) and league officials (who proposed banning him from playing).

"It was all a miscommunication. There were a lot of misunderstandings. We just weren't on the same page. I really wanted to play, but I thought I could leave. They explained it to me different. I thought of it different," he explains.

Cabagnot eventually ironed things out with his team and the league, but he still plans to complete his studies in Health and Physical Education.

"I'm just three subjects away from graduating. I'm going to get my degree for my mom and for me, too. Imagine going to school for 14 years and not finishing it. That's just dumb. Hopefully, after my first PBA year, if we're going to have a break, I'll finish it," he says.

But Cabagnot points out that he's not exactly itching to go back home, either.

"I'm having fun. If it weren't fun I'd be dying of homesickness. That's why I came to the Philippines, to play in the PBA. This is what I'm here for. I could be hanging out with my family back home in LA but I chose to be here," he says.

Cabagnot also asserts that he's very eager to learn from the local players and coaches.

"This is now the pro level and it's a notch higher," he says. "I'm now playing against the best in the country so I have to adjust. I must say the Philippine brand of basketball is a lot smarter, craftier. I'm learning a lot from my teammates Mac Cuan and Paolo Mendoza."

And the experience still feels unbelievable for the young cager.

Eyes wide open

"Everyday I play with the best PBA players," he enthuses. "There's Kenneth Duremdes, Dennis Espino, Marlou Aquino, these guys are veterans. If I don't learn from them, I can't learn from anybody. So here I am, eyes wide open, head clear, and I just listen."

But Cabagnot admits that there are moments when his enthusiasm is slightly dampened every time he misses his family.

"I lived with my mom and I miss her a lot. So now, I talk to my mom a lot. I can't go a day without communication with anybody back home. I just can't. If I've got to buy a P100 load just to talk for three more minutes, I'd do it. It's worth it. I chat online with them on webcam, that's the best. I also left a lot of friends in LA," he says.

Although his teammates keep him company, Cabagnot says he's usually doing a lot of things on his own.

"My teammates have their own thing. They've got their girlfriends, their wives. They have their families. And I'm the youngest. So I try to stay as long a possible in the gym so I don't have to go home and be alone. I also keep myself busy, like I play video games," he says.

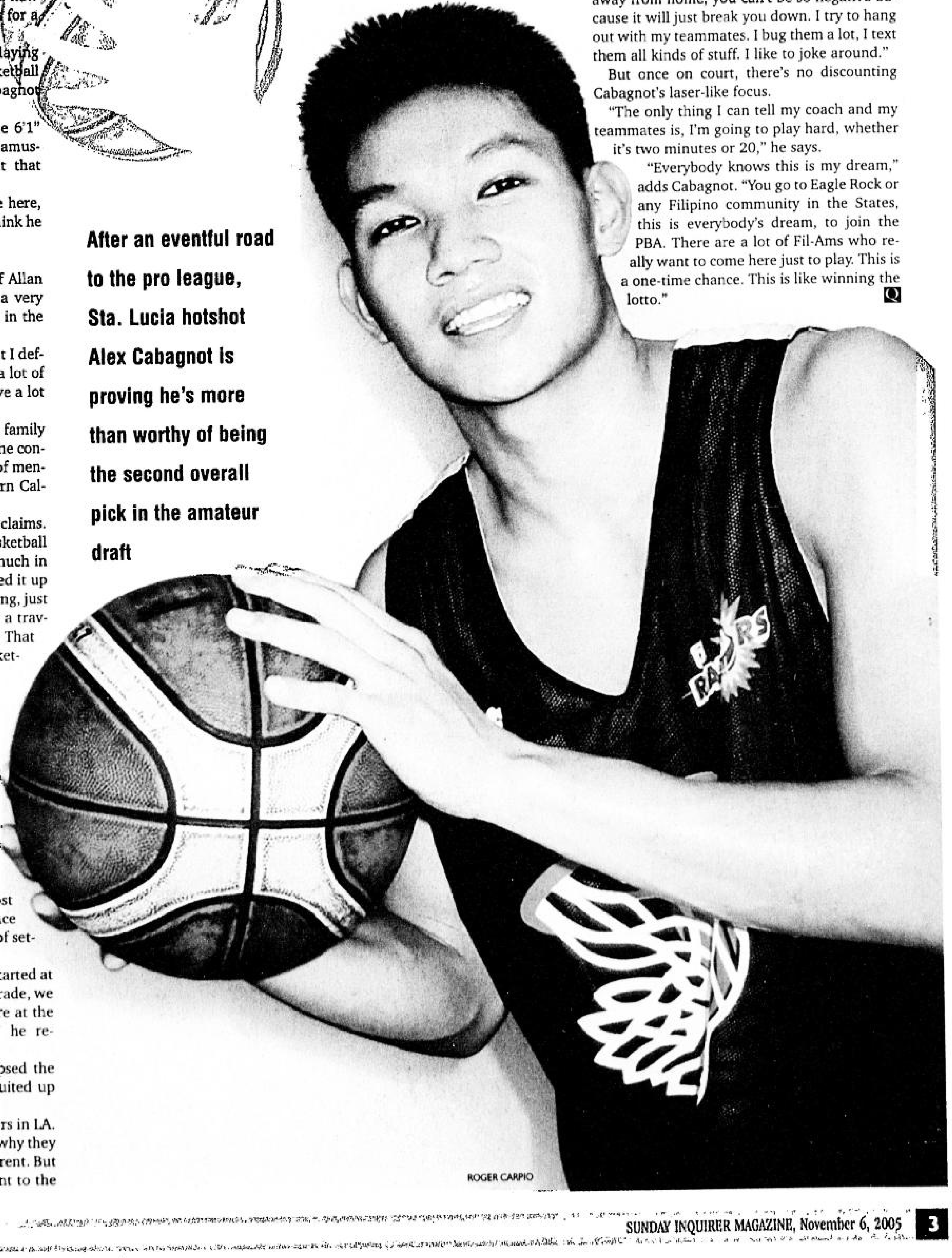
Cabagnot maintains, however, that he's far from bored.

"I bug Mac a lot," he laughs. " Being so far away from home, you can't be so negative because it will just break you down. I try to hang out with my teammates. I bug them a lot, I text them all kinds of stuff. I like to joke around."

But once on court, there's no discounting Cabagnot's laser-like focus.

"The only thing I can tell my coach and my teammates is, I'm going to play hard, whether it's two minutes or 20," he says.

"Everybody knows this is my dream," adds Cabagnot. "You go to Eagle Rock or any Filipino community in the States, this is everybody's dream, to join the PBA. There are a lot of Fil-Ams who really want to come here just to play. This is a one-time chance. This is like winning the lotto." Q



After an eventful road to the pro league, Sta. Lucia hotshot Alex Cabagnot is proving he's more than worthy of being the second overall pick in the amateur draft

ROGER CARPIO

GUYITO, the official mascot of the Philippine Daily INQUIRER, takes centerstage as the newspaper marks its 20th anniversary in December. Festivities will be highlighted by the unveiling of 20 Guyito carabao sculptures based on the character created by chief cartoonist Jess Abrera, and translated into the three-dimensional version by sculptor Juan Sajid Imao.

The INQUIRER has invited 20 of the country's veteran and emerging artists to paint the fiberglass sculptures based on the anniversary theme, "The Power of Knowing." They are: Malang, Bencab, Kidlat Tahimik, Fernando Sena, Salvador Convocar, Soler, Steve Santos, Caña, Lydia Velasco, Ernesto Patricio, Bing Siochi, Roel Obemio, Tres Roman, Wilfredo Offemaria, Bin Samonte, Jef Samonte, Romeo Forbes, Rex T atlonghari, Anton Balao and Jack Salud.

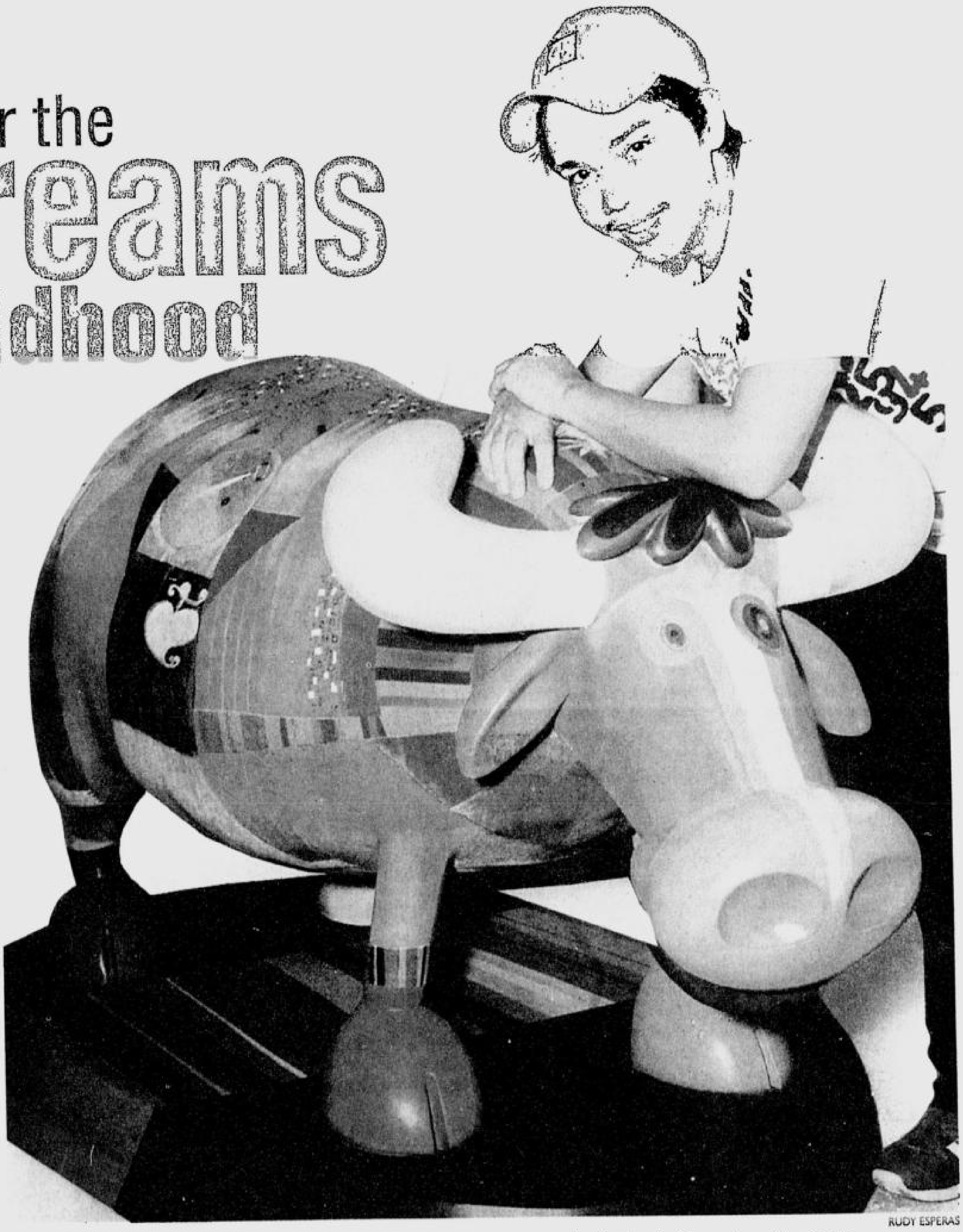
The carabao sculptures will be donated to 20 selected cities/municipalities nationwide, to be chosen based on their high schools' rankings in the Regional Finals of the Quiz Bee Competition. Miniature versions of the Guyito sculptures will be given to the top 20 companies that have supported the INQUIRER in the past two decades.

From January to May 2006, INQUIRER representatives will visit the 20 selected schools/cities to turn over the sculptures. In addition, an INQUIRER Campus Journalism Workshop will be held in each school. The one-day lecture/workshop will feature INQUIRER reporters, editors and columnists who will discuss specific journalism topics and share their expertise on effective writing, editing and layouting. The number of student participants will be determined by the school's available venue. Delegates will be given a handbook on journalism styles, methods, ethics and best practices.

INQUIRER president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez said the complement of anniversary activities underscores the need for knowledge. In marking its 20th year, INQUIRER particularly hopes to motivate students to become achievers. "Through these projects, we hope to inspire the young to value reading and use it as a tool to attaining their dreams."

Sunday INQUIRER Magazine profiles the artists who have made the Guyito undertaking possible.

Romeo Forbes
A Canvas for the Daydreams of His Childhood



RUDY ESPERAS

by Elvira Mata

WHEN Guyito was brought to Romeo Forbes' home in Obando, Bulacan, they couldn't get the carabao sculpture through the door.

So they decided to park him in the garage.

"*Nakiparada muna kami ng kotse sa kapitbahay* (We asked the neighbors if we could park the car in their garage)," Forbes, 24, said, so they would have enough room for the fiberglass figure that was slightly bigger than a tricycle.

He immediately started work on Guyito, working in the garage, listening to music on his iPod.

"Music is important to me. I have a ritual when I paint. I listen to instruments. It helps me concentrate. Sometimes, I listen to all drums or all guitars. I am not fond of lyrics," he said.

Kids passing by the garage on their way to school would stop by the partly opened garage, curious about the fiberglass figure the artist was working on. And since they only saw Guyito's backside, they assumed he was a very big pig.

Later, when Forbes moved the sculpture, the kids recognized the white form to be a carabao. They started getting excited.

"'*Yan ba yung ipapalit duon sa kalabaw namin sa iskul* (Will that replace our old carabao in school?)" they asked the artist.

A common monument

In Bulacan, Forbes explained, the carabao is a common monument in school, usually found in the middle of a garden or a vegetable plot.

Since it was too complicated to explain that Guyito was no ordinary carabao, Forbes just nodded and continued working.

First, he sanded the sculpture to make sure the acrylic paint would stick on the surface. Then he painted every square inch of Guyito—a total of six coatings!

After working non-stop for a week, Forbes' incarnation of the INQUIRER mascot emerged with yellow horns, green hair, matching red face and body, with hooves of four different colors.

Forbes painted four kids on Guyito's stomach—two on each side—like they had been steamrollered. Here were the artist's trademark one-dimensional figures, with their crooked heads—hairless, of course—with eyes of two different colors (one red, one black) and arms with four-fingered hands chasing, no, catching a downpour of letters.

"Sticking those letters took the longest time," Forbes said, explaining that they were all letter transfers.

The finished project has a title, "*Mumunting Hakbang ni Juan dela Cruz* (Small steps of Juan de la Cruz)," and an even longer explanation: "*Ito ay naglalarawan ng pag-asa ng Batang* Pinoy *na makapagtapos ng pag-aaral. Makamit ang magandang kinabukasan sa pamamagitan ng nararapat at ninanais na edukasyon. Ang mga letrang tila kumakalat pataas ay simbolo ng walang humpay na kaalaman. Di dapat maging hadlang ang kahirapan sa minimithing tagumpay* (This illustrates the hope of the Filipino child to finish school. To have a bright future by means of a good and proper education. The letters that seem to spread upwards symbolize unlimited knowledge. Poverty should not limit one's desire for success)."

Cartoon-like kids lose themselves in innocent play all over this young artist's creation

Jess Abrera fan

Forbes is a long-time fan of Guyito's creator, Jess Abrera. "When I was in high school, I used to collect Sunday INQUIRER Magazine because of his A. Lipin cartoons. That's why I didn't have a hard time rendering Guyito. I just thought of Jess Abrera's cartoons," he said.

And while his paintings are reminiscent of Tolkien's Middle Earth, the artist insists they look like scenes from the Cartoon Network.

"I like them hairless with blank expressions on their faces. I cannot explain it. I feel happy when I create figures like this," he said.

Forbes revealed that the children of Obando, their games like *piko, karera ng bangkang tsinelas, jolen* and tex, are the inspiration for his work and for Guyito.

The INQUIRER lifestyle deskman Lito Zulueta has described Forbes' paintings as the "world of a daydreaming boy who sees elfins and magical creatures in the homespun and the every day. His dream world is folksy and unaffected. It is basically the world of his childhood Obando with its Marian fertility shrine, oddball characters, and rustic charm facing effacement by industrialization and urbanization."

Forbes started joining art competitions when he was 10 and caught the public eye in 2001, when he swept the Grand Prizes for the Petron National Art Competition, the Shell Art Competition and the Asian Development Bank's Key Indicators Cover Design Competition.

In June this year, he staged his first solo exhibition titled "Elias and His Trees," at the Art Center of Glorietta 4, as part of the French Spring in Manila 2005. He interpreted Palanca awardee Augie Rivera's Filipino and English adaptation of "The Man Who Planted Trees" originally by Jean Giono.

As of this writing, Forbes has left for an art scholarship abroad. He will be in Singapore for a group exhibit early next year.

Caña
An Angst-Free Guyito That Speaks to Kids with Joy

This cubist artist says he wants children viewing his design to feel 'happy, optimistic, and proud to be Pinoy'

by Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

AS a child, artist Frank Caña Valencia, known simply as Caña, would hold a toy marble against the sun and peer closely into the glass sphere. "It was like a kaleidoscope, a prism of light and colors that formed into half-moon patterns like the letter D," recounts the artist of his favorite childhood preoccupation. Growing up in Kamuning, Quezon City, when the area was yet enclosed by trees, he also remembers looking up and seeing sunlight streaming through the thick weave of leaves "like sparks of light in half-moon shapes."

That shape—shaded, merged or overlapping—would later figure as a backdrop in Caña's cubism-inspired nudes, while the sunlight would find resonance in the bright and brilliant hues of his art.

"I'm a happy person," reveals this design director of J. Romero and Associates. "And like my favorite artist, Malang, who's a father figure to me, I subscribe to angst-free art. I want to paint out of joy. Even my nudes are idealized and are not meant to arouse the baser instincts. You look at them and you marvel at the beauty and gentle slopes of a woman's body. More than just painting eye candy, I want people to feel good when they look at my work, to see not gloom and doom but absolute beauty."

Making Filipinos laugh

Such light-hearted temperament finds perfect expression in Guyito, the INQUIRER mascot that, Caña believes, has become an icon precisely because it makes Filipinos laugh. "People can identify with him," notes this Saturday Art Group officer. "*Masaya ang* Pinoy, *eh* (Filipinos are happy by nature)."

In keeping with that spirit, the 47-year-old artist decked out Guyito in fiesta colors and festooned him with all things Filipino: the Philippine eagle, a ripe mango, gaily-waving *banderitas* (streamers), the Moriones mask, the waling-waling orchid and the national tri-color. "It's funny, but when I saw Malang's rendition of Guyito, I realized that we were thinking along the same line," recalls Caña. "We both painted the carabao's face with the emblems of the Philippine flag."

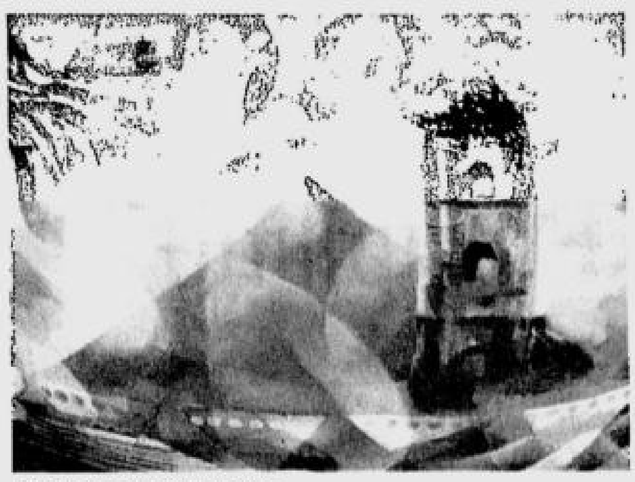
He was thinking of the target audience, says the artist of his Guyito design. "When I read that the painted mascots were going to be donated to schools, I knew then that children would be the main viewers of this art. I like kids, and I thought I should do something that would not just promote my art. That would be unfair to the children. *Dapat may mapulot din sila.* (They must get something from it too.) And being profound wouldn't help. So I chose colors and designs that would be attractive to them. I wanted the children to look at the mascot and feel happy, optimistic and proud to be Pinoy."

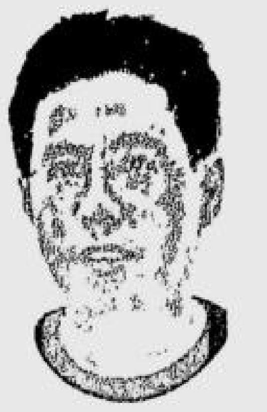
Sense of discovery

His style should also make for moments of discovery, says this Fine Arts advertising major from the University of Sto. Tomas. " I want the children to feel a sense of discovery. The emblems are stylized and are not immediately apparent because of the cubism-inspired background so they have to figure out the drawings. This way they get to think and to discuss among themselves, '*Uy*, mango *pala ito. Ito naman*, eagle.' At least, to my mind, I contributed something to their education," says this father of four young boys who have similarly taken up the paintbrush.

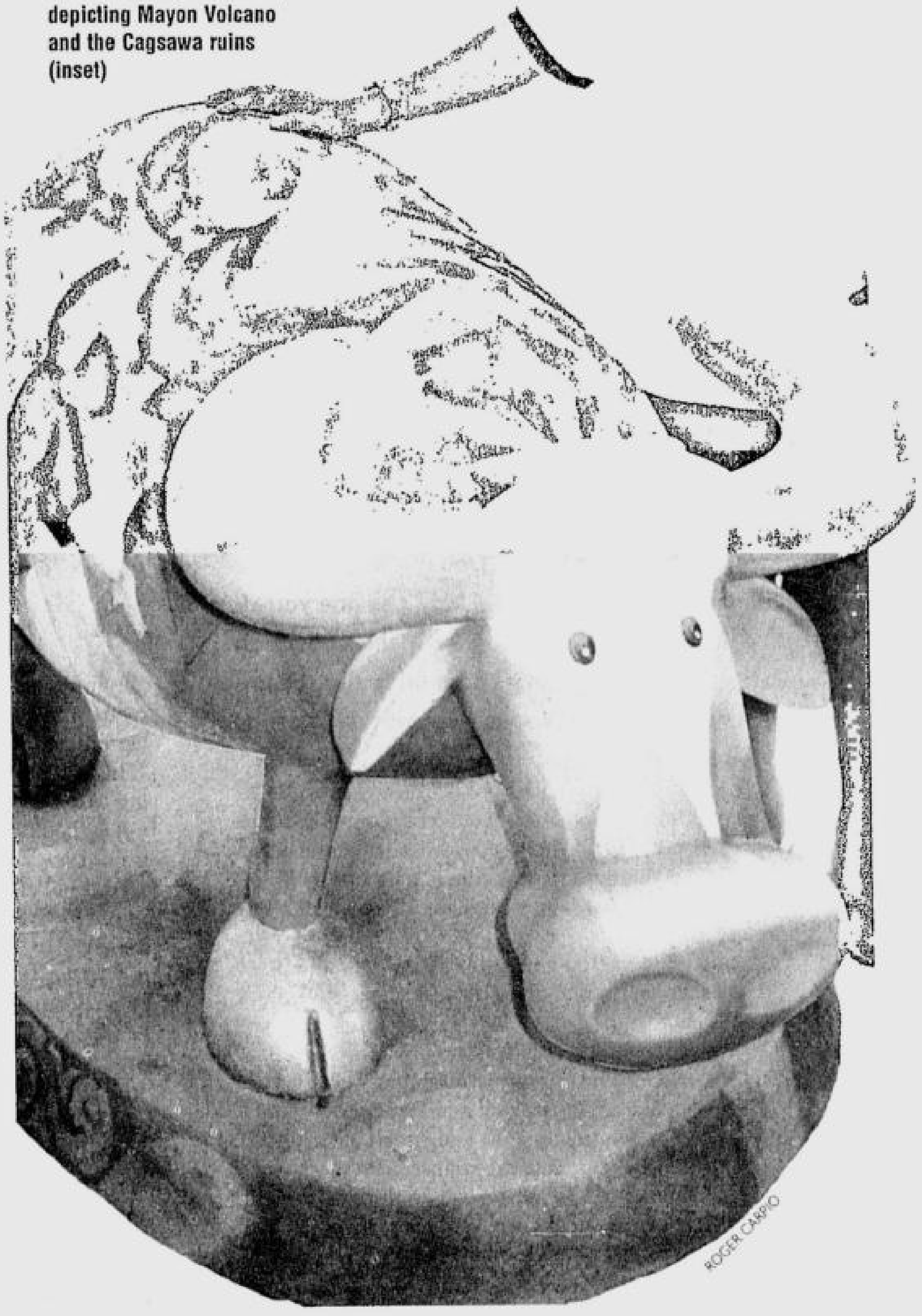
Using acrylic to paint his designs, Caña confesses to facing his biggest challenge in Guyito's sheer girth. "I'm used to painting on a flat surface, and suddenly, there's this three-dimensional mascot." The paint would drip and he had to contort himself to get to Guyito's curves, he cites. "*Ang sakit sa likod at balakang*! (My back and my hips hurt)," he complains good-naturedly.

Caña, who started off in Grade 1 "rinsing brushes" for his watercolorist elder brother, Juan "Magoo" Valencia, says he has one big wild dream: "To paint an entire building in the half-moon pattern using bright and brilliant colors. I want people to see this tall structure from afar and to think, *siguro masasaya ang nagtatrabaho dun* (I bet the people who work inside that building are happy)!" Q





Artist and work (below); detail from Guyito's torso, depicting Mayon Volcano and the Cagsawa ruins (inset)

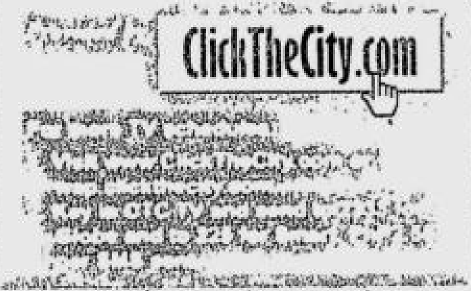


ROGER CAMPO

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
TV GUIDE

Watch Pinoy Power in America's Hottest Dance Challenge!

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE
Ryan Conferido
SEE IT FIRST ON ABC
Friday 10pm



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Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
NBN				Nat Basketball League				UN Summit-PGMA		Tinig ng Bayan (Live)		Battle Royale		The Sports List	Go For Gold		Business & Leisure		Unmixed Diving
ABS-CBN2	A.S.A.P Fanatics		Stained Glass		The Buzz				Goin' Bulilit		Search For A Star In A Million	Rated K		TV Patrol World	Pinoy Big Brother	Sunday Family Cinema			
ABC5		Ringside TV		PBA										Hollywood Dream		Maxmedia Specials			Islamusik
GMA7	Gigsters	Love To Love			S-Files				Mahiwagang Baul			Mel & Joey		All Star K		Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office	
RPN9		Golf Power	Auto Extreme	Fistorama		JAG		JAG		Navy Ncis		Without A Trace		NBA On RPN				Sure Hits	The Working President
IBC13		EZ Shop		EZ Shop	Taxman	Home Shopping Network		Home Shopping Network		Japan Video Topics		TBA				Iyo Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI		
SBN21		New Life TV Shopping		Buhay Pinoy		Sheperds Voice		EZ Shop				Oras Ng Himala		Orasng Katotohanan		Gabay At Aksyon		SBN Sing Along	
Studio23								Nginiig		Y Speak		Two & A Half Men	Joey	Will & Grace	F.	Digital Tour (10:15PM)		Buffy The Vampire Slayer	Chefs On The Go
MTV Philippines	Mush		Laguna Beach	MTV Cribs	Wade Robson Project	Viva La Bam	Pimp My Ride	Get Hitched	MTV Screen	The 70's House	Spring Break	MTV Presents				Whatever Things	MTV Hits	Essential VH1	
MYX		Pinoy MYX Countdown				Take 5	MYX Bandarito	MYX News	Star MYX	MYX LOG	Pop MYX	MYX Presents		MYX Hit Chart				MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX
CNN	International Correspondents	World News	The Daily Show John Stewart Global Edition	World News	World Sport	Larry King Live		World News	Talk Asia	World News	The Daily Show John Stewart Global Edition	World News	Main Sail	World News	World Sport	Global Challenges	CNN Business Traveller	Talk Asia	Next@CNN
Solar Sports													Sports Desk	US 9-Ball Open 2005					
Sports Plus						Slipstream		Celebrity Poker Tournament				Raceworld		BD Best of BD	Inside the PGA	The Tour C'ship Presented By Coca-Cola D3			
Cinemax		The Making Of Battlestar Galactica	Bad To The Bone (3:45 PM)			A Few Good Men (5:15 PM)					Deadly Voyage			Battlestar Galactica Mission 7	Hulk (9:45 PM)				
Hallmark Channel	The Nanny	Mary Bryant				Mary Bryant				Long Shot				Icon					
Disney Channel	Recess	Totally Spies	Lizzie Mcguire	Brandy & Mr Whiskers	Lilo & Stitch	Totally Spies	Mr. Bean	Phil Of The Future	Suite Life Of Zack And Cody	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney			Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	Phil Of The Future	Even Stevens	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Discovery Channel		Mostly True Stories		American Chopper		IBM Innovation Hour		Mythbusters		Hour Asia		Cathay Pacific Signature Series		Stealth Secrets		FBI Files		Power Zone	
National Geographic		No Borders			Rediscovering The Map	Crocodile Chronicle	Chimp Diaries	Innovation		Megacities		Megastructures/ Inside 911		Savage Earth Week		No Borders Voices From Heaven/Monsoon Railway/Bus 174/Shooting Under Fire			
Cartoon Network		Police Academy	The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	The Road Runner Show	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	Winx Club	The Life & Times Of Juniper Lee	The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	Samurai Jack	Teen Titans	The Looney Tunes Show		Cartoon Cartoon Show	Crash Gear Nitro	Power Rangers Ninja Storm	Justice League	Harvey Birdman (11:15PM)	Mission Hill
Nickelodeon	Sabrina, The Teenage Witch	Unfabulous	Naturally Sadie	Romeo	Drake & Josh	Chalkzone	Avatar: The Last Airbender	Danny Phantom 1, 2, 3		Four Eyes	Romeo	Girls In Love	The Amanda Show	My Dad The Rock Star	Four Eyes	The Wild Thornberrys	Are You Afraid of the Dark?		
Lifestyle Network	Date With Design	Ground Rules	Outer Spaces	Your Private Island	Breathing Room	Back To Basics	Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Ciao America With Mario	Haunted Restaurants		Britney Spears		60 Most Outrageous TV Moments				Clean House	
Star World		The Apprentice		Tru Calling		Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	One Tree Hill		The Simpsons	Kumars At 42	Oprah Prime Time/Peter Jenning's UFOs Seeing Is Believing		Parkinson		Nighty Night/ World's Scariest Ghosts/Haunted Houses/Road Trip/The Robinsons/Nighty Night Season 2	Human Remains	The Simpsons	Oprah Prime Time
AXN								WRC 2005: France		Ultimate Guinness World Records	Ultimate Guinness World Records	Numbers (Season 1)		CSI Crime Scene Investigation (Season 4)		CSI NY (Season 1)		CSI Miami (Season 3)	
JackTV		Reno 911	Blue Collar TV	X-Play	Sweat	Street Smart	The Sib Show	Hip Hop Nation	Ride With Funk Master Flex	WWE Afterburn		WWE Smackdown				South Park	The Man Show	Insomniac W/ Dave Attell	Beat The Geeks
ETC	Will & Grace	Saturday Night Live		Veronica Mars		American Dreams		One Tree Hill		Queer Eye For The Straight Guy		Average Joe		Rated Oh!	The Insider Weekend	Meet My Folks		ET Weekend	
HBO			Sabrina (3:45 PM)					Raiders Of The Lost Ark				The Making Of Rome	Indiana Jones And The Temple Of Doom				Indiana Jones And The Last Crusade		
Star Movies				Dangerous Waters: Shark Attack (3:50 PM)			John Carpenter's Ghosts Of Mars			Stuck On You				Starsky & Hutch			Mystery Men (10:45PM)		
EWTN	Defending Life	Angelus (3:15 PM)	EWTN Bookmark	Adventures In Odyssey	Faith Factory D	Rosary With Mother Angelica	EWTN Global Showcase		Octava Dies	Fr. John Corapi		Sunday Mass				The World Over	Life Is Worth Living	Mother Angelica Live Classics	

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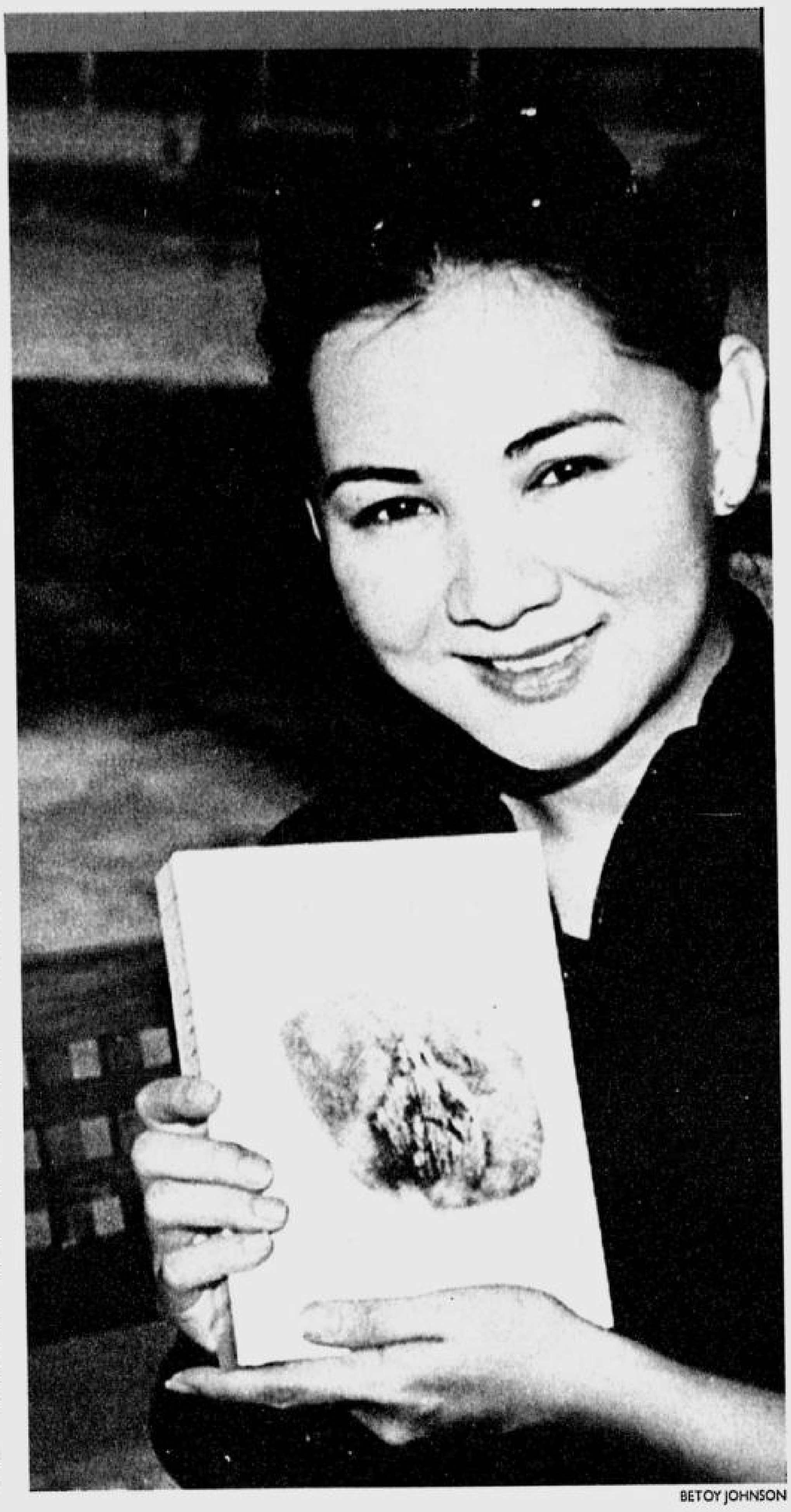
Ang inyong tagapaghatid ng ulat-pangmulat
alas-10 ng gabi na! Tuwing Huwebes
Ating kabalitaan
Cheri Mercado
Dito lang sa ABC
INQ TV

The Writer's Life

by Terrie V. Gutierrez

Compiling Love Stories Between God and Filipinos In the Age of Oprah

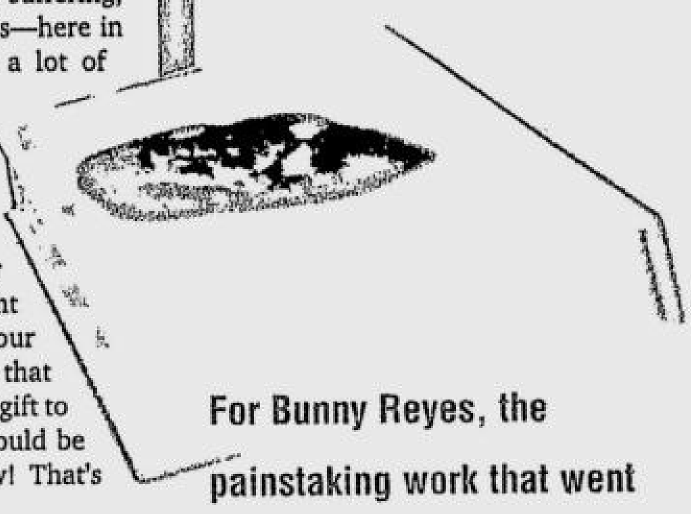

BETOY JOHNSON

WHEN you interview the author of a book on miracles, what would your preconceived notions be? You'd probably expect to be talking to a devout little old lady, the one you always see at Mass, assisting with the collection plate. If I had ideas along these lines about Bunny Reyes, they all flew out the window seconds after I met her.

"We live in a very secular world," Bunny says. "With all the bad things happening around us, you do wonder about the morality of things. You wonder about good and evil, and you think, does it really matter what I do? Does God really exist, and what can I do to make a difference?

"I had a good life, I'd gotten married, I had an MBA," says the 36-year-old Bunny. "I asked myself, now what?"

We are at the Palms Club in Alabang on a rainy Saturday afternoon, and Bunny is attempting to explain why a beautiful economist, wife and stepmother would write a book on miracles. "As you grow older, more things happen to you. You experience pain, suffering, joy—you experience the most extreme things—here in the Philippines, especially. We go through a lot of these, and that sets us into thinking, what does this all mean?"



God's gift

For Bunny, it meant sitting down and writing a book on these thoughts. The seed was planted in 1999, but it wasn't until her wedding in 2001 that she eventually thought about what she could do. "It was during our wedding, and my husband said something that struck me. He said that our marriage is God's gift to us, and that our lives from that point on would be our gift to God. And I was thinking, wow! That's heavy."

One evening last year, she and her husband Joey were having coffee with friends Mike and Monica. "Mike was telling us about how his younger brother James had a miraculous healing as a child. I was so amazed by the story that I told him people should know about it. That's when it hit me. It was like a light bulb switched on in my head."

And thus, the seed for "The Little Book of Miracles and Answered Prayers" was planted.

She wrote a little piece on what the project was—what the book was about, and what it should contain. Not having written anything of this sort was a challenge that Bunny accepted. "I'm really not a writer. I didn't know what to do."

So, naturally, she went to a priest. "I talked to Fr. Dave Clay," she recalls. "I wanted to find out if I could do this book. If the Church would allow me." Fr. Clay, whom Bunny met three years earlier through a Catholic Engagement Encounter, thought it was a good idea, and told her to go ahead. "He was my first interviewee."

From then, the stories trickled, then poured in. "It sort of mushroomed. I thought it would be just a quiet grain of sand on the beach of life, you know," she says, still amazed. "I thought that I'd be done in six months." Of course, that didn't happen. From one person, she was urged to talk to a friend and then a friend of the friend, and so on down the line.

For Bunny Reyes, the painstaking work that went behind "The Little Book of Miracles and Answered Prayers," a chronicle of blessings, is her own way of giving thanks for a blessed life

"I didn't know when it would end, because one person would refer me to the next, but when I hit tape 32..." she pauses significantly. "You know, writing this book has been pretty symbolic and I somehow knew that I'd end at tape 33. I was smiling to myself. And sure enough, tape 33 happened, and there were no more stories."

Thirty-three tapes holding 184 stories from 89 people (including Bunny), evolved into a book two inches thick. "Talking about one's faith has become politically incorrect in the last decade or so," Bunny reflects. "It's just a matter of allowing people to express themselves. If it's OK for you to say 'I love my boyfriend, why isn't it OK for you to say 'I love my God'? If it's something you believe in, you should be able to say it."

Reality TV

Bunny believes that Filipinos are ready for such a book. "This is the Oprah age," she says with a laugh. "This is reality TV. This is people wanting to know what is really inside you."

The book has gotten good feedback from those who've read it.

And hopefully, people would be inspired by it. But how has it changed the author?

"Writing the book, I have become more understanding, and patient—and less judgmental," she says with a laugh. "It helped me be hopeful."

For Bunny, writing the book was more than a journey into knowing herself and knowing others. "It was a passion. There were times when I couldn't sleep. I'd be working on the book late into the evening, transcribing and writing. I couldn't put it down." The book became her life from the time she started it in 2004 until it was launched last July, published by Bunny's own company, Bare Feet Publishing, and available at National Book Store, Fully Booked and other shops. Proceeds of sales go to five charities: Mula Sa Puso Foundation, the Association of St. John Marie Vianney, the Apostolate of Our Lady Queen of Peace, the SVD Mission and the Home for the Angels. Bunny, who has an economics degree from Ateneo and an MBA from the Asian Institute of Management, had planned to pursue a Ph.D., but she gave that up to write.

She was so into the book that her husband began teasing her about it. "He'd say that he was a book widower. He'd be in bed waiting for me to sleep while I'd still be up working on it."

Bunny so believed in the book that she even went so far as to publish it herself. "I'm a bit of a control freak," she confesses. "I wanted to be able to decide how I wanted the book to look."

Not just the big stuff

The stories in the book come from all kinds of people, including a list of Manila's Who's Who and people you wouldn't associate with miracles. Before she interviewed subjects, she asked for an attestation: "Something along the lines of 'To the best of my memory, this is how it happened.' And the only things not included in the story are the things that may be hurtful to other people.'"

But what exactly is a miracle? Are we talking about the turning-water-into-wine variety? It's not just the big stuff, for sure. According to Bunny, "The fact that you're able to bring up a child, or even a baby, that's a miracle. I'm not going to define it the way the Church defines it. But for me, a miracle is something as simple as waking up the following day." In terms of the book, "It's something unexpected, amazing, or impossible, but which happened because of love."

She also reflects on the term "answered prayers." "When we pray, we always think that the answer has to be a yes to whatever we asked. But 'no' is an answer. So is 'maybe.' Or it could be, 'Not now, but later.' Or 'Yes, but you have to do this first.' The key is to recognize the answer, to be open so you recognize the answer. You also have to be prepared for whatever the answer will be."

Obviously, the book is a labor of love, clichéd though this phrase is. "I wanted to give justice to the people who shared their stories with me, and to those who would be reading it. I wanted it to be something everyone could be proud of. That can be passed on from one person to the next. And there are Filipinos everywhere. Who's to say that it won't make its way abroad?"

In the end, the book is a love story—between "heaven and Filipinos," as Bunny terms it. Love—yes, that's the greatest miracle of all.

If you have more stories of miracles to share, e-mail Bunny at barefeet.publishing@gmail.com or bunnyreyes@gmail.com.

Gifts From Your Table

IN your next family market trip, please remember our Center for Migrant Youth. Include us in your shopping list. Perhaps, a piece or two of canned foods (sardines, corned beef), coffee, milk, sugar, cooking oil, rice, condiments, noodles, bath and laundry soap—anything you can afford to share with 22 migrant and street youths in our house.

You need not give all the goods mentioned above, just a piece or two (like the five barley loaves and two fishes given by the little boy in Jn. 6:9) which, when entrusted in the hands of Jesus, could feed a multitude.

We have "graduated" at least five generations of CMYers who started as street bums—abandoned, lonely and hopeless. They have nevertheless strived to get up again to become seafarers, overseas workers, educators, professional drivers, computer technicians, small entrepreneurs and entertainers, among other trades.

The Center for Migrant Youth moves from 103 Cordillera Street (SMH, Quezon City) to #15 Goldman Street, East Fairview Village, Commonwealth Avenue, QC on December 17 through a simple *Simbang Gabi* Mass at 5 p.m.

Since CMY has moved from the Diocese of Cubao to the Diocese of Novaliches, we have invited the bishops of both dioceses, Bishop Honesto F. Ontioco and Antonio R. Tobias, to offer the 5 p.m. *Simbang Gabi* Mass for us.

As I said, it will be a very simple sit-down Eucharist for everybody—no frills, no uniforms, no special choir, just an ordinary coming and praying together of friends of CMY—like moving and journeying together in faith and trust.

Please come.

Sincerely in Jesus' Name,
Fr. Ruben J. Villote

This Week

Art

Kolektor Series 2005, new furniture in wood by Benji Reyes at the Art Space, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati City until Nov. 9. For details, call 728-9724.

Boston Gallery (72 Boston cor. Lantana Streets, Cubao, QC) presents **Molde Perdido**, a series of 12 bust sculptures of saints and holy personages done in cast epoxy resin by Joel Alonday at the Lower Gallery. Shown at the Gallery Alcove is Samuel Penaso's **Baligja**, medium-scale watercolor paintings on paper depicting various scenes of the sari-sari store. Both exhibits run until Nov. 16.

Music

The voices of Monique Wilson, Jamie Rivera, Jed Maddela, Bimbo Cerrudo and Pipo Lina and the inspiring stories of hope and service of the Jesuit Volunteers Philippines will come together in a benefit concert, **The Joy of Sharing: Songs and Stories of Hope**, on Nov. 13 at the Philamlife Theater, UN Avenue, Manila at 6:30 p.m. Proceeds from the concert will help support the programs of JVP which recruits, trains, forms and sends fresh college graduates and young professionals to under-resourced institutions and communities in different parts of the country. Tickets available at Ticketworld outlets and JVP office (tel. 927-9060 or 426-5908).

The famous **Diary of Anne Frank**, which centers on the memoirs of a girl in a German concentration camp during World War II, highlights the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra third concert series on Nov. 11, 8 p.m. at the CCP Main Theater. Solita Monsod is guest narrator. For tickets, call CCP Box Office at 832-3704, Ticketworld at National Bookstore and Tower Records (tel. 891-9999).

The Manila Chamber Orchestra Foundation ends the annual "MCO Arts Festival" with the concert, **Past Perfect** featuring the famous compositions of George Gershwin, Cole Porter, and Richard Rodgers on Nov. 12, 6 p.m. at Equitable PCI Bank's Francisco Santiago Hall. Performing for the concert are singers Patrice Pacis and Eugene Villaluz, flutist Tony Malgue, guitarist Butch Roxas, and pianist Della Gamboa-Besa. For tickets, call 840-7000 local 2630 and 878-4359.

Onstage

Gantimpala Theater Foundation will stage **El Filibusterismo**, the sequel to "Noli," on Nov. 6, 6 p.m., Open-Air Auditorium, Luneta, Manila; Nov. 10-13, 10 a.m./2 p.m. at the AFP Theater; Nov. 18-19 at St. Cecilia's Hall, St. Scholastica's Manila; Nov. 25-26, RFC Cinema Theater, Las Piñas City and Dec. 1, 10 a.m./2 p.m. at SM Southmall. For bookings, call 899-5745 and 896-3503.

Koine One Acts will stage the 2003 Palanca award-winning play **I Laugh You**, about a young man who can no longer hide his feelings and is forced to profess love to the woman of his dreams in a very candid and awkwardly funny way. The play runs in tandem with ***Sampung Minuto Bago Makaraos*** about two strangers who meet, figuratively and literally, and go through a cathartic experience by disclosing their tragic histories while taking a dump. Playdates are Nov. 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26, Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17 at 7:30 p.m. at 2/F, Forab Building, 121 Kamuning Road, QC. Call 410-4485 or 0916-5251038 to reserve limited seats.

Jon Santos and Jon Lapus star in the comedy show, ***Ang Ganda***, at Zirkoh Club Tomas Morato on Nov. 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26. The show will feature the comedians getting into the characters of Vilma Santos, Nora Aunor, Rosanna Roces, Dra. Vicki Belo, Cory Aquino, Kris Aquino and many others. Jon and John will be backed up by the Streetdancers and a surprise male hunk will guest every night. For tickets, call Zirkoh Club at 374-8270 / 374-8202; DSL Productions 815-2169 and 810-8828.

Atbp

Pete Lacaba Retrospektib: Buhay at Panahon ni Jose F. Lacaba will be shown on Nov. 12, 19 and 26 at the NewsDesk Café, 8 Scout Madrinan cor. Scout Tobias Streets, South Triangle, Quezon City. It includes an audio-visual narrative on the life and times of Lacaba plus a chronological showcase of select poems of Pete Lacaba, written over a span of. 40 years. Tickets available at the gate. Show starts 8:45 p.m. For details, call Carol Claudio or Ronald dela Paz at 376-3965.

Painter-art teacher **Fernando B. Sena** is conducting an **art workshop** for 8 years old and above every Wednesdays from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Sena will also hold another art workshop for ages 6 years old and above facilitated by artists Marcelo Baldomar and Danilo Parungao. To be held every Sundays from 9 to 11:30 a.m. The Sunday Art Workshop will start on Nov. 13. Lessons include drawing and painting of still life, landscapes, seascapes, portraits and other figurative themes using various media. To be held at the UP Vargas Museum Basement, Diliman, Quezon City. Registration is ongoing, only limited participants will be accepted. Call Linda at 928-1927 or Fernando B. Sena at 376-2196.

"*Salung Puwit*," a three-seater chair made of recycled wood varieties by Benji Reyes, on exhibit at Art Space

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For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

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Nikki

...from page 2

nine percent of Julie's time is spent managing her daughter's schedule, for which her previous experience in advertising is proving useful. Both are enjoying the whole thing, though they do occasionally argue because it's hard to draw a line between being manager/client and mother/daughter.

Aside from the demands on her time as a student, the newfound fame has had other effects. Nikki hardly gets to see her family anymore, especially considering how close the Gils are. "The house is like an airport," she says. "I'm very active in Church (Alabang New Life). If I'm not working or in school, that's usually where I am, and that's where my circle of friends is." If she were out with her friends, then it's off to the mall for shopping and movies. Nikki reads a lot, Nicholas Sparks and the classics. She also adores her yellow lab named Starbucks.

Nikki remains quite shy about her love life, though she admits she is seeing Gabriel Valenciano, Gary V's second son. Gabby is actually Nikki's first boyfriend. How cute.

As Nikki's career continues to unfold, there have been unusual decisions, at least by typical showbiz standards, such as the refusal to do movies for now. "Not at the moment. We're open to it, but I don't want to be doing too many things at the same time and spread myself too thin," says Nikki, who is also currently endorsing the clothing brand Penshoppe. To make sure that Nikki's career is properly developed, Julie says they're looking into getting help on the managing side.

Short shelf life

This is all crucial when one considers how short the shelf life is of newly-minted personalities in Philippine fandom. The tradition of newbies breaking through after a successful TV ad is a hallowed one, from Gabby Concepcion's Close-Up spot to Carmina Villaroel's Jollibee appearance. Coca-Cola itself has launched many a face, including 1980s good girl Lilet of "I am the future of the world" fame (she recently made a comeback, singing under the name Marielle).

The key lies in how extended and diversified Nikki can make her career and how she can avoid being defined exclusively by her breakthrough ad, especially since she has ruled out any daring and dizzying career twists. It will be a test of her talent and her resolve, as well as a coin toss in the hands of a fickle audience.

Being the self-aware creature that she is, Nikki herself has some concerns about her reputation, worried that good behavior might be perceived as blah. "I reached a point where I was like, 'Ma, we have to stop building on that completely wholesome thing because people might get sick of me. But that's really me. If they get *sawa* (bored) with me, then that's the end of me.'" There is a life beyond the song numbers and the autograph signings. "I want to get into the field of advertising and get involved in mass media but I can't tell really what I'll be doing three or four years from now if this doesn't work out."

Julie, however, says that Nikki has a place in the industry she's chosen: "It's time the industry gets someone like her. When she turned 18, we gave her her freedom. And now she has this freedom, she also has this responsibility."

There is, however, a genuine upside to being recognized—particularly by little children. "All of the sudden, I'm an ambassador of hope because of my role in the commercial. Kids started looking up to me and following what I do," Nikki says. "All of a sudden, my opinion on things matters."

In that lies the intrinsic difficulty and delight in what Nikki does next, because she represents both the pretty and the profound. "I never imagined this in my wildest dreams. I'm enjoying it but there are times when I have to think this is work, something serious, and I'm not just playing here." Everybody should love Nikki Gil because of what she represents: the smart showbiz spirit who wants to sing and yet keep her soul—and yours—safe, away from the *laos* and the lost, living proof that we can and should expect more from the famous and the felicitous. Now that is irresistible.

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Calendar of Activities

- Press Con
  November 7
  Seafood Club and Restaurant
- Festival launch and "Deep Blue" Premiere
  November 9
  Greenbelt 3 Cinema lobby
- "Deep Blue" regular screening
  November 10-15
  Greenbelt 3 Cinema 3
- Photo exhibit by Gutsy Tuason
  Opening November 16
  Greenbelt 3 Cinema lobby
- Food festival
  November 23
  Greenbelt 3 Park
- Closing Ceremonies
  November 30
  Greenbelt 3
- Panda booth
  November 9-30
  2/F landing Greenbelt 3

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by Blaise C. Gacoscos
photographs by Erwin Obcemea

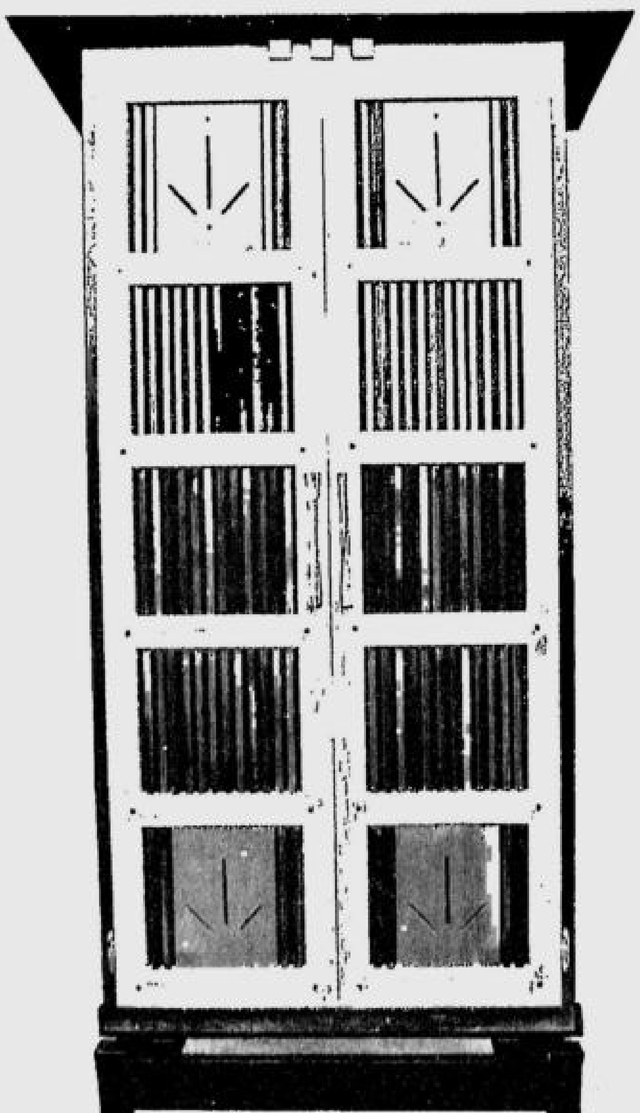
Rotten Wood Sent This Wood Wizard's Siblings to School—and Saved His Son's Life

Craft as art: An ipil and molave altar table

His booming construction business provided his brothers and sisters with education and jobs, until the financial crisis and his son's health problems nearly wiped him out. Today, craftsman Agi Pagkatipunan is finally out of the woods, thanks to his ingenious furniture designs

Wood is good: Agi with his yakal bench and 12-seater dining table (above); with son Ino (below right)

GUILARDO Gabriel Pagkatipunan, 44, began collecting Philippine hardwood in 1994. He traveled to Cagayan, Ilocos, Benguet, Bulacan, Quezon and Bicol to source wood, mostly from old knocked-down houses. Friends and relatives had no idea what he intended to do with the junk wood he had carefully piled up in his San Mateo, Rizal farm, which they derisively described as rotten wood, "*bulok na kahoy*."



Priceless: A two-meter high linen cabinet

"I just laughed at the term," he recalls. "They didn't realize how this wood had great personal value to me."

Indeed, after a decade of designing wooden furniture for homes in North Forbes Park, Ayala West Grove and Loyola Grand Villas, and rest houses in La Finca Farm, Tali Beach and Terrazas de Punta Fuego, Agi has proven that, combined with artistry and hard work, so-called rotten wood can be priceless.

High on wood

"I started with a construction business," says Agi, who put up Design Concept Construction in 1984. He designed and built houses in San Mateo, Montalban and Marikina with his carpenter-father, Edgardo Pagkatipunan, doing most of the woodwork. Agi finished B.S. Architecture at the Central Colleges of the Philippines in 1985.

Seven years later, he formally launched AGP Engineering and employed four of his siblings—civil engineer Noel Pagkatipunan, architect Annie Pagkatipunan-Ferrer, and later, interior designers Ma. Aileen Pagkatipunan-Cruz and Mary Grace Pagkatipunan—who all earned their degrees courtesy of their *Kuya* Agi.

So along with his siblings, Agi constructed houses in Manila, Cavite, Bicol, Cebu and Bohol. His business flourished, but his profits usually went to purchasing expensive wood. "I don't know, but I get high when I buy wood," he says.

Then he started getting bored with the business. "You leave the house early in the morning, go to the site, do your inspection, go home in the evening, then wake up early to visit another site the next day, and so on. I wasn't enjoying it anymore," he recounts.

When the 1996 Asian economic crisis broke, the country's construction business suffered a direct hit. "Before the crisis, we were building six houses simultaneously in six months," recalls Agi. "When the crisis hit, we were down to two houses in one year. That's not enough to sustain the business. Worse, our clients whose houses were completed couldn't even afford to pay us." Though their construction business didn't fold up, they had to scale down. Today, most of AGP Engineering's projects have to do with interiors.

Agi faced more problems on the home front. Married since 1994, he and wife Elenita never had a child of their own. In 1997, they adopted Anton and Diego Pagkatipunan, now 10 and 11 respectively. Two years later, on May 22, 1999, Marciano "Ino" Pagkatipunan was born premature. Later, they would learn that the infant had a congenital heart disease. Although Ino would survive surgery, the hospital bills almost wiped out the family's savings.

Final operation

"There was a time when I only had P200 in my wallet," says Agi. While driving home to San Mateo, he told his wife, "Let's just use the money to buy gasoline in case we need to rush back to the hospital."

After several more operations that wiped out Agi's final savings, Ino, 6, is well on his way to health. The Ateneo grade school pupil who loves to draw and mold clay is scheduled for his third and, his father hopes, his final heart operation in April 2006.

The hard times just past had Agi swearing to himself, "If there's one person who can help me and accept my skill and talent as collateral, I'd gladly work for him." He found plenty who would, one of them Jerry Araos, the foremost wood sculptor, who took notice of Agi's talent early on. From 1984 to 1985, Jerry gave him "observer status" in his San Juan shop. He upgraded this to "non-resident apprenticeship" from 1990 to 1992. Both studies are by invitation only.

Agi's big break would come eight years later when architect-couple Anthony and Blanca Senador asked him to design modern Filipino furniture pieces for a Forbes Park home. Agi impressed the French resident with such original creations as a dining table for 12 made of yakal and molave, two Japanese-style beds with wooden frames, and an Asian-inspired library cabinet made of hardwood. This proved to be the beginning of his productive collaboration with the Senador couple that lasts to this day.

Hit collaboration

With so many job orders keeping him busy, Agi decided to open his own factory in San Mateo, where he works full time. His designs are his own, he says, brushing aside rumors that he worked in another furniture shop and copied its designs. "I never worked in any other furniture shop except in my Furniture Farm."

A client later introduced Agi to architect Alex Co. Their collaboration turned out to be a hit. In the tropical home of show biz couple Claudine Barretto and Raymart Santiago, for instance, Alex's clean lines, open spaces and big windows complement Agi's centipede-shaped dining table, his-and-hers writing tables, and a patchwork-designed main door made of 16 kinds of hardwood.

"Alex allows me to do all the woodwork in his projects, no questions asked," Agi says. "It's a smooth collaboration."

Agrees Alex, "We jive, that's why we always work together. Give Agi a concept, and he is able to improve on it and give it his personal touch. He's very artistic. His design is very modern Filipino, as is his combination of different kinds of wood that he harmoniously blends together."

Last year, Agi started attending informal lectures on carpentry and "furniture as sculpture," by his *Tatay* Jerry, who offers these classes gratis to a select few. Says the mentor of his student: "Agi is true to himself because his father is a carpenter. Now he, too, is a carpenter. He started with craft and moved on to style. His work is at the crossroads where high craft and state of the art intersect." Q

Furniture Farm and Woodcraft is located on Marang Road, Maly, San Mateo, Rizal, tel. nos. 297-1217 and 0919-5363068